

•Mayor's State Of The Town Address -  
Mon., Jan. 22nd, Middle School at 7:30 p.m., Cable Channel 5



# AGAWAM

## Advertiser·News

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Agawam, MA 01001

# 55c

Volume XIX Number 3

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

January 18, 1996

## New Health Agent Comes Home To Assume Post

by Angela Baggetta  
Advertiser News Feature Writer

Agawam native Randall White was to begin his new job at the Agawam Town Hall as the new health inspector on Monday, January 8th. But because of the blizzard, he received one more day off before totally moving all belongings he had collected over 14 years as an employee of the City of Springfield to Agawam Town Hall.

"It's amazing how much stuff you accumulate after 14 years," said White, 41. He fondly remembers those early years when he, ironically enough, applied for the job of health inspector in Agawam. He was not selected at that time so he applied for a position in Springfield in 1980 as a sanitarian, a post that lasted five years.

He was then promoted to director of Environmental Health, a post which he held for four years before his predecessor, who was laid off because of budget problems, asked for his old job back and got it.

White was then the city's Occupational Health coordinator dealing with "Right to Know" hazardous waste issues. This position was funded by the state, though, and when its budget was cut, so was his job. His next position was involved with childhood lead poison prevention, another grant from the state that was zeroed out when the money was. Finally, in 1991 he ended up as Springfield's director of Environmental Health, coming full circle.

After working in so many capacities in his profession, White said that he feels he has received a good education in dealing with problems and their solutions. He's dealt with scenarios ranging from "getting iguanas off of people's roofs" to things he would rather not mention.

SEE WHITE - Page 2...

## Public Can Still Get Tickets For Town's Inaugural Night

The plans are being made for the 1996 Inaugural Celebrations to be held at The Oaks, located at 1070 Suffield Street in Agawam.

The date will be January 26, 1996 at 6:30 p.m. A Social Hour will start the evening. There will be a mock swearing-in ceremony for the Mayor, Town Council, and School Committee members. Hors d'oeuvres and a buffet dinner will follow.

Music will be provided by Rocko, The D.J. for your dancing pleasure throughout the evening.

The cost of this event is \$18 per person. If you would like to be a sponsor of this event, a \$50 donation will entitle you to two tickets to the celebration and a sponsor listing in the event program.

Please send ticket orders to the Inaugural Committee, c/o Mayor's Office, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001 or call Jennifer in the Mayor's Office at 786-0400, ext. 201.

Please make check's payable to the "Agawam Inaugural Committee."



NEW HEALTH INSPECTOR RANDALL WHITE, a native of Agawam, is pictured on his second day on the job last week with Mayor Christopher C. Johnson, Town Nurse Marialyse Rivers (left), and Board of Health secretary Nancy Modzelewski. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Independent Counsel Sought For Town... Council Overwhelmingly Puts Hebert Back On Zoning Board

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

They disagreed over the petition for a special permit to allow construction of a power plant on Moylan Lane, but Zoning Board of Appeals members Doreen Prouty and Raymond Gendron were united in their support for the reappointment of Ronald Hebert as their chairman.

At the Tuesday, January 16th Town Council meeting, Hebert was elected to another three-year term with the approval of nine councilors. Councilor Thomas Ennis abstained and Councilor Dennis Perry was absent.

Ms. Prouty said Hebert was "fair and open-minded."

"You won't find a more qualified person," Ms. Prouty said.

Gendron, who split with Hebert and Prouty to vote against the special permit sought by Berkshire Power for a 250 megawatt power plant, agreed that Hebert was the most qualified person to serve on the ZBA.

Describing Hebert as a "man of great integrity and impeccable character," Gendron said "their major difference of opinion over the power plant in no way denigrates the respect I have for Ron."

In order for a special permit to be granted, the three-member ZBA must vote unanimously. On January 2nd, Hebert and Ms. Prouty voted to grant the special permit that (subject to 47 conditions)

allowed structures over 40 feet to be built at the proposed power plant.

Gendron voted against the special permit.

Resident Kenneth Forni, spokesman for the Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam (CCBA) opposing the power plant, praised the ZBA for the professionalism, respect, and courtesy shown to both side of the issue at the public hearings. Forni commended Hebert for his "honesty, integrity, and sincerity."

Despite criticism from power plant opponents and some Town Councilors, Hebert said there is precedent for the writing of a majority and minority opinion in the rare instances when the ZBA's decision is not unanimous.

After Berkshire Power filed an appeal of the ZBA's decision last week, Hebert said he discussed legal representation for the majority and minority opinions of the board with Mayor Christopher C. Johnson.

Hebert said it was decided that Town Solicitor Thomas Locke would represent the majority opinion, and the assistant solicitor would represent Gendron's minority opinion.

SEE HEBERT - Page 2...



**WHITE - from Page 1...**

In the more mundane moments of his job, he dealt with the basics of running his health department. He was in charge of food sanitation, enforcing state sanitation codes, taking care of recreational facilities, and regulating mosquito and rodent control. White was also involved in a number of projects with the city, such as household hazardous waste collections, rabies clinics, and composting waste materials.

As Agawam's health inspector, White will continue to do basically what he's been doing for the last five years. "There are the same public health functions in Agawam," he said, "including food sanitation, sewage, enforcing the state sanitary codes, and title five housing (septic systems)."

White reports to Mayor Christopher C. Johnson and the town's Board of Health in his new capacity. The committee that selected White (made up of Johnson, William Euliano, chairman of Agawam's Board of Health, personnel director Sandra McFadden, and building inspector Dominic Urbinati) voted unanimously to make White the inspector. "After interviewing several finalists," said Ms. McFadden, "the committee found White to be the most qualified candidate to effectively implement the overall goals of the health department."

The Agawam native began his education at the now-closed Peirce Elementary School (Police Headquarters) and so on all the way up to Agawam High School, graduating in 1972. He went on to the University of Massachusetts where he majored in public health (with a concentration in environmental health). His mother still lives in town.

White has lived in Southwick for the past two years with his wife, Caroline, and their 14-month-old daughter. As a working couple with a small child, said White, he and his spouse don't have much time for hobbies. "I used to fish and I used to golf," he said with a wry laugh.

As a health inspector, said White, "I can honestly say that there is always something happening. I can be pretty sure of never doing the same thing two days in a row. It's always something new."

And as the new health inspector here in town, White will certainly feel right at home.

**HEBERT - from Page 1...**

"The town solicitor has been on record in favor of the power plant," Hebert said. "I didn't think it was appropriate for Ray's (Gendron's) position to be represented by him."

**Both Opinions Needed Legal Representation**

Hebert said both opinions needed legal representation in the event the court overturns the ZBA's decision and power plant opponents file an appeal. Since Berkshire Power's appeal only deals with the minority opinion, Hebert said only one position would be argued in court.

The decision to utilize the town's attorneys to represent the conflicting opinions of the ZBA is being challenged by power plant opponents and by several councilors.

Councilor Gary Suffriti is proposing a special meeting of Town Council to discuss the possibility of obtaining independent legal counsel for the ZBA.

Suffriti said he will gather the necessary signatures from four other councilors and expects to call the special meeting for Wednesday, January 24th, at 7:30 p.m. at the Middle School.

Suffriti said the council has the right to investigate and hire legal counsel for the ZBA and that it was unheard of for the town to defend both sides of a vote.

"If that's not a conflict, I don't know what is," Suffriti said.

Gendron said he had no problem with the representation provided for him by the town.

"My position is that I'm appointed (to the ZBA) by the town and it's up to the town to provide legal representation for me. It's not up to me to select the attorney," Gendron said.

Hebert said the decision to use the town's Legal Department was based on saving the taxpayers money. Even though the town attorneys will be paid for their work in representing the ZBA, Hebert said the town is charged a lower fee than they would be charged by an independent counsel.

## Fire Wise

by Fire Chief David Pisano

### Fire Dept. Offers Rules Of The Road Tips When Emergency Vehicles Come Your Way

The Agawam Fire Department reminds motorists that the law requires they pull to the right-hand curb to allow emergency vehicles to pass. Failure to do so can cause serious accidents or delays in arriving at the scene of an emergency.

When you hear sirens or see red lights, pull to the right side of the road and stop. If you cannot move right, move in any direction that will allow the emergency vehicle through. Look first before moving. If there is no place to move, sit tight.

Following an emergency vehicle may seem exciting, but, in reality, is dangerous both to the emergency personnel and to yourself.

Emergency vehicles often have to stop sudden-

ly, and someone following too close could become involved in an accident and emergency personnel could be injured when attempting to get out of their vehicles to respond to the call. Please heed the warning posted on the back of most fire engines, which states that vehicles behind them should be at least 50 feet behind them.

If you are a pedestrian and hear sirens, stay on the curb. Do not step into the street, even after the emergency vehicle has passed. There may be more following at a distance.

Keep children close to you. They may try to dart out to see the fire truck or ambulance.

For more information, call the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

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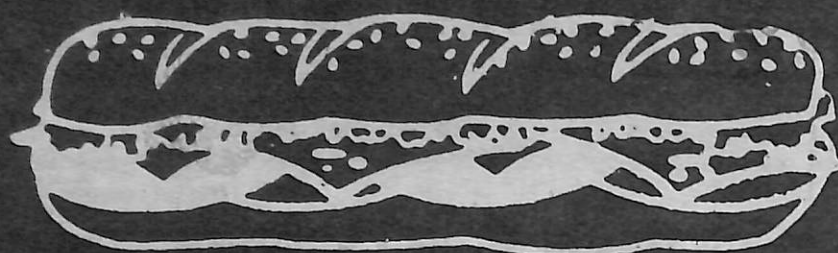
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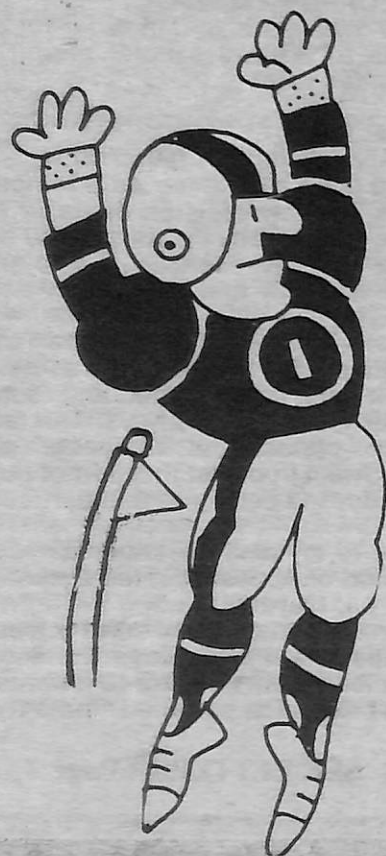
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American and  
Imported Swiss Cheese

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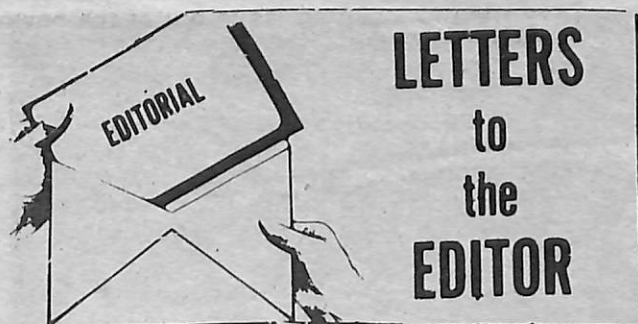
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## Proposed Pub Would Be A Detriment To Feeding Hills

To The Editor:

Friends And Neighbors:

Do you want another bar in your neighborhood? The January 9th meeting of the Agawam Liquor Licensing Commission paved the way for the "Juniper Ridge Pub" to become a reality. The proposed pub would be located at 341 N. Westfield St. at the Juniper Ridge Shops, would have a front and rear entrance, and seating for 30.

Due to short notice, there were only five people present in opposition to the presence of this type of establishment. Although we put up a good fight and the Licensing Board refrained from making a decision that night, their attitude was that it would be very difficult to stop such an establishment from being constructed. In fairness, the Liquor Licensing Board decided to postpone their decision until their next meeting on Tuesday, February 13th.

The objections and concerns stated at the meeting consisted of the following. First and foremost, that this type of business is not within our community standards. This is especially true when one considers the large number of children that utilize the current Juniper Ridge Shops such as Movie Mart and Annmarie's Dance Studio. Would you be as willing to send your child down to these shops knowing that there is an alcohol-serving (beer, wine, and hard liquor) lounge next door?

Second was the issue of traffic safety. The North Westfield St./North St./North St. Extension intersection is considered a dangerous intersection by the Town of Agawam. Do you really want impaired drivers pulling out into this intersection, perhaps while you or your children are crossing?

Third was the concern of late-night noise. This pub will be open until at least midnight each and every night. How might this affect the neighborhood in the warmer weather when windows are open?

Fourth, it was suggested that perhaps a fence could be constructed to help buffer the lounge from the neighborhood. Is that really a solution, and is it fair to the many in the Liswell/Halladay Dr. area who currently walk to the existing businesses at that intersection?

At the meeting, the licensing commission stated that this would be a small, up-scale community lounge with a good clientele. Who can guarantee that? Also, although the proposed site is small (29' x 42'), it would be virtually impossible to stop the pub from expanding into adjacent units if and when they become available.

In summary, the tone of the meeting on January 9th was not in our favor. Our only hope is to pack the Faolin Peirce Room on Tuesday, February 13th. Please help us in this cause. This is our neighborhood we are trying to save. The present shops in Juniper Ridge are an asset to our community. We do not feel the proposed pub would be an asset.

If you live in this area and are opposed to having a bar in your neighborhood, please attend the 7:00 p.m. meeting on February 13th at the Faolin Peirce Room of the Agawam Police Station. If you live in another section of Feeding Hills or

Agawam and have family or friends in the Juniper Ridge Shops area, please consider attending this meeting. Your presence will help preserve the fine quality of life we all enjoy in our town. Thank you all for your support.

Laura and Bob Poth  
971 North St. Ext., Feeding Hills  
Gail and Rick Jagodowski  
60 Halladay Dr., Feeding Hills

## Mid Winter Night Committee Thanks Sponsors For Support

To The Editor:

On behalf of the Agawam Mid Winter Night Committee, we would like to thank the following sponsors for their support of our celebration:

Agawam Cultural Council, Agawam Junior Women's Club, Agawam Rotary Club, Westfield Savings Bank, BayBank, Bank of Boston, Woronoco Savings Bank, Taylor Rental, Forastiere Family Funeral Homes, Mayor Christopher Johnson, Senator Linda Melconian, Representative Daniel Keenan, Dr. & Mrs. James Doering, Mr. & Mrs. David Skolnick, Stop & Shop, Antonio's Grinders, and Agawam Parks & Recreation Department.

Through their generous efforts, over 500 Agawam residents were able to spend a safe and affordable evening with their families and friends to help ring in the New Year.

We greatly appreciate their community spirit and wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,  
Mid Winter Night Committee

## Thank-You Agawam For Bryan Beaudette Fundraiser

To The Editor:

Thank you to all the generous people in Agawam who responded to the fundraiser for Bryan Beaudette.

It was quite successful! In fact, donations are still being mailed in. We're very grateful to all the wonderful people from Agawam who showed up at the spaghetti supper at First Lutheran School on December 7th.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,  
Laurie & Mike Beaudette  
Springfield

## Concerned Citizens Should Again Push Referendum

To The Editor:

To the Concerned Citizens and Business of Agawam: where's your referendum? Given added impetus to the movement thanks to the courageous decision of Mr. Gendron, and given a City Council majority now far more hospitable to the motion - now may be the very best time for CCBA to petition the City Council if we're to secure the necessary legislation in Boston.

Mayor Johnson has said that he will not oppose such a maneuver. For the state legislature, the matter would be routine. We need only secure the prerequisites for Council approval of the petition.

We could have our special election, after all

Sincerely,  
Owen Broadhurst  
Agawam

## Berkshire Power Has Failed To Meet The Burden Of Proof

To The Editor:

Two phrases that are being bantered around town that I *strongly* object to are:

1. "The Board of Appeals *FAILED* to grant a special permit to Berkshire Power."
2. "Minority decision."

First, the Board of Appeals did not fail anything. The burden of proof has been, and will always be, on Berkshire Power.

Berkshire Power failed.

Remember, according to our town zoning laws, this power plant cannot be built without a special permit because according to our town zoning laws, no structures over 40' high are allowed in this industrial park. Berkshire Power has not one, but *five* structures over 40'. Berkshire Power had to prove to the satisfaction of ALL VOTING ZONING BOARD MEMBERS, that they deserved a special permit.

ALL ZONING BOARD MEMBERS!

The laws of our town state, that in order for the Board of Appeals to issue a special permit, it must be a unanimous vote!

It was not.

Berkshire Power failed.

The Board of Appeals did not fail anything!

Secondly, there is no such thing as a minority decision. The one and only decision made by the Board of Appeals, was to deny the permit. All this baloney about a minority decision ... majority decision ... there was only *one* decision! **Permit denied!**

Now that Berkshire Power has taken the Town of Agawam and its people to court, this decision to deny the permit must be supported and fought for in court by our town and attorneys. The laws are in place to protect the residents and businesses of Agawam from just this sort of huge monstrosity that doesn't belong at this particular site.

This brings me to my next question. Why it is that after our Board of Appeals denies Berkshire Power its permit, our Mayor is leading the fight to have this decision overturned? Why don't you support our laws as they are written, Mayor Johnson? You're asking our lead Town Solicitor to represent a side that doesn't exist. The so-called "majority."

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Saturday, January 20th  
Roast pork supper at  
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5:30 p.m.

Monday, January 22nd  
Agawam Women's Club  
At Captain Leonard House  
7:30 p.m.

Monday, January 22nd  
Agawam Jr. High PTO meeting  
At the Junior High cafeteria  
7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 23rd  
Agawam Historical Association  
At Captain Leonard House  
7:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 25th  
Agawam/West Side Toastmasters  
At Country Estates Nursing Home  
Route 75, Agawam  
7:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 27th  
Operation Friendship's "Oldies Dance"  
At Polish American Club, 139 Swk. Street  
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## LETTERS - from Page 4...

Mayor Johnson, there was only one decision made, not two. Permit denied. Our town has now been brought to court by Berkshire Power. Our legal council must support and defend the decision of the Board of Appeals.

Mayor Johnson, why do you support the outsiders who are trying to come into our town when our laws say they can't? Why did you appoint two attorneys, when there is only one decision to defend? As Mayor, shouldn't you lead the charge to defend our laws?

Finally, Councilor Bitzas. Remember this past summer, during those public hearings on Berkshire Power, you spoke with disdain about "the outsiders." You said you didn't like outsiders coming into Agawam and telling us how to run our town.

Well, Councilor Bitzas, the outsiders are Berkshire Power. The outsiders have been told by our laws that they are not wanted. The outsiders, Berkshire Power, are taking your town to court in order to force their way into Agawam. The outsiders, Councilor Bitzas, want to circumvent our zoning laws. The outsiders are forcing all Agawam residents to use our tax dollars to defend and uphold our laws.

To quote you from September 7th, Councilor Bitzas: "I would appreciate it if the businesses from Longmeadow do not tell us how to run our town." Well, Councilor, Berkshire Power may not be from Longmeadow, but they are trying to tell us how to run our town!

Now, Councilors Bitzas, Thompson, Simpson, and all the new councilors ... whose side are you on? The people of Agawam deserve an explanation as to where you stand.

Are you with the people? Do you support the decision of the Zoning Board and the laws of Agawam as they are written? Or, will you align yourselves with the outsiders? Remember, the outsiders are the ones who are trying to tell us how to run our town.

We know the Mayor supports the outsiders. Does this Council? We request that you state your position.

Sincerely,  
Ken Forni  
Agawam

## The Truth Will Prevail Regarding Berkshire Power

### To The Editor:

Once again, the small group of opponents to the power plant are twisting events to fit their own purposes. They say that Berkshire Power should leave town because they are not wanted here. What they forget to mention are the following facts:

1. Berkshire Power was invited to come to Agawam and our town competed with other communities in attracting the plant here.

2. The power plant has already received favorable votes from the City Council, the Planning Board, and the Conservation Commission. The Planning Board and Conservation Commission votes were unanimous.

3. The Zoning Board vote was 2 to 1 IN FAVOR of the project. In any other case, this would show overwhelming support for the project.

4. The Massachusetts Secretary of Environmental Affairs has signed off on the project's environmental report.

5. Letters from town department heads, including the fire chief, indicate support for the project.

6. The opponents had the opportunity to present their case to the state siting board but they did not because they knew that they would have to answer questions under oath and be subject to cross examination by experts. The opponents knew they didn't have the facts to back up their rhetoric.

I hope that Berkshire Power decides to stay in Agawam because in the end, I know that the truth will prevail.

Sincerely,  
Ronald LaRiviere  
Agawam

## Politics Reared Its Ugly Head Over BP Issue

### To The Editor:

I am amazed that Agawam is in danger of losing one-million dollars a year in tax revenues because some failed political candidates have decided to go on a crusade.

Take a look at the most outspoken opponents to Berkshire Power. Three of them lost their bids for elected office last year, but they still want to impose their will on the rest of us.

They tried to make an issue out of the power plant BUT THEY LOST. Now Agawam is in danger of losing money, jobs, and an important addition to our industrial base.

It is a shame that even though all of the evidence showed that the power plant would be a positive addition to our town, politics reared its ugly head. If we are not careful, Agawam will revert back to the old days when politics ruled for better or (usually) worse.

Sincerely,  
E. Monroe  
Feeding Hills

## Raymond Gendron Has The Right "Vision" On BP

### To The Editor:

As a citizen of Agawam, I would be remiss not to thank Raymond Gendron for his decision on Berkshire Power. With eyes unblinded by dollar signs, he had the vision to see what this power plant will do to Agawam.

As a fellow human being, I would be remiss not to thank him for having the courage to make a decision based on his convictions.

There are three kinds of people that live in our world, and also in Agawam. The first kind are unaware of what's going on and therefore can do nothing about it. The second kind are well aware, but for monetary gain or a feeling of helplessness do nothing. The third kind, to which Mr. Gendron belongs, looks and sees the wrong and to the best of their ability tries to do something about it.

Over the years, we have had promoters of racetracks and casinos come to our Town. They bribed and tried to brainwash as the promoters of the power plant do. These former promoters, when they knew we would not buy their project, had the dignity to go away. The promoters that are here now have no dignity; they only have the killer instinct.

Anyone that has followed this power plant thing from the beginning knows that the rumor in the beginning that it was "a done deal," wasn't a rumor—it was the truth. Mr. Gendron's vision and courage has, for the time being, undid it.

We can only hope that it won't be "a done deal" when it gets to court.

Sincerely,  
Mary Ghedi  
Agawam

SEE LETTERS - Page 6...

786-1127

786-1128

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## LETTERS - from Page 5...

## It's About Time More Positive Views On BP Are Publicized

## To The Editor:

After many months of reading editorials regarding Berkshire Power's proposed 250 megawatt, state-of-the-art power plant, I have reached this conclusion: The Berkshire Power Issue receives much negative criticism from a very small group who are opposed to this project.

This group continuously sends editorials for publication, citing only the views that best suit them. There are always two sides of every story, and it's about time that more positive views are publicized.

In response to an editorial dated January 11, 1996, a figure of \$176,000,000 is used, which is a projection of total development cost. What is not considered is what's taxable and what isn't.

I'm no tax specialist, however, it's my understanding that a much lower calculation is in order. I firmly believe that complex calculations and tax law should be left to qualified professionals specializing in this field.

In lieu of taxes, a payment of \$800,000 is to be paid annually with a 3% escalation factor. An additional \$200,000 will be paid annually to a special fund to be used as the community sees fit. Considering current economic conditions, I feel these payments are in line.

After all, let's remember that much industry has left our region due to economic incentives offered by other regions. If we want to be competitive with these other regions, then we must follow through with our initiatives.

This is only one of the many reasons why Berkshire Power's plant should be built in our community.

Stephen Brouillette  
31 Ottawa Street  
Agawam

## Divide &amp; Conquer Method Employed On Power Plant

## To The Editor:

The Mayor, the Council President, and Berkshire Power, through the age-old method of divide and conquer, have done everything in their power to split our community by trying to split the Board of Appeals against itself by using taxpayer dollars to defend separate opinions of the board.

Such an action is wholly unethical, improper, and probably illegal for several reasons. The most important reason is that the Mayor is bound by law and his oath of office to do everything in his power to defend the Town, the citizens of Agawam, and the decisions of Agawam's boards and committees.

Since the final decision of the Board of Appeals, **AS A WHOLE**, was to deny Berkshire Power a special permit, the board, **AS A WHOLE**, must be defended. Therefore, the Mayor, bound by his oath of office, must relinquish his support of Berkshire Power and defend the decision to deny them a special permit.

In the history of good government, never have individual members of any board had separate legal representation to defend their individual opinions. Because every board and committee is considered a single entity, it is improper to defend each opinion.

Berkshire Power wants the majority opinion to prevail. Therefore, if the Mayor uses taxpayers' money to defend the majority opinion of the Board of Appeals, he is, without question, using taxpayers' money to help Berkshire Power overturn the minority opinion and win their suit against the town.

Again, the Mayor seems to be working for Berkshire Power instead of working for the residents of Agawam. To do so is, in my opinion, an impeachable offense. Again, we should ask the Mayor why.

Regarding the 47 restrictions that the Board of Appeals was willing to place on Berkshire Power, Attorney Ray Gendron said it best when explaining his vote. Ray said, **"If we have to place 47 restrictions on the power plant, then, clearly, that should tell us that this plant is being built in the wrong place."**

All of the restrictions are meaningless because the board never voted to approve them. As such, they hold no legal standing. Also, many of the restrictions cannot be applied or enforced because of federal or state codes. Even worse, several of the restrictions are "good faith" restrictions.

In other words, "good faith" restrictions leave it up to Berkshire Power to decide whether or not they feel like abiding by the restrictions. Given Berkshire Power's past and present history in keeping their word, it is like asking the wolf to stay out of the henhouse while the farmer goes to town.

In closing, I would like to applaud the Board of Appeals for the way their public hearings were conducted. **No matter what the Board's decision is or might have been, no one can deny that the public was given every consideration with fair, honest, and total involvement. It was completely opposite from the way the residents of this town were mistreated during the council hearings.**

Since the Board of Appeals, as a single body, has made its decision, I have not heard a single criticism of that decision. However, I have heard many criticize the way that decision is being interfered with. Perhaps it is time to show Berkshire Power that their methods of divisiveness no longer will be tolerated.

Perhaps now is time that the people of Agawam show those strangers from the east, and the public officials that support them, that we are better than they. Now is the time that we should come together as a community and support our Board of Appeals against those strangers who have divided our town.

Sincerely,  
Louis J. Russo  
Feeding Hills

## "Good Samaritan" Is Thanked For Caring For Dog

## To The Editor:

While recently in Robinson State Park with my dog, some snowmobilers came up behind me and scared my dog Spike (an English setter) out of the park. He then crossed the road and went up the driveway to Mike Russell and son's house.

By the phone number tag I had on my dog, Mike Russell called my home to say he had our dog.

We want to thank Mike Russell and his son for caring for our dog Spike until we could pick him up.

Sincerely,  
Paul Gilbert and family  
Agawam

## School Committee Set To Begin Search For New Superintendent

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

At its first meeting on January 9th, the new School Committee lost no time in launching the search for a new superintendent of schools.

Even though the search for retiring Superintendent Bernard F. Ryder's successor won't officially come up for discussion until its next meeting, the School Committee unanimously agreed to suspend their rules in order to meet an early deadline for free advertising in a newsletter sent to all school superintendents in the state.

At its next meeting on January 23rd, the School Committee will consider a plan submitted by School Committee Chairman (Mayor) Christopher C. Johnson outlining a search procedure and timetable that will culminate with the selection of a new superintendent on May 28th.

If the committee accepts Johnson's plan, the new superintendent will begin work on August 15th. After heading up Agawam's School Department for four years, Ryder has announced his intention to retire at the end of August.

Johnson's search plan calls for the committee to utilize a priority rating system in screening applicants. Under Johnson's plan, the committee will use ratings criteria based on input from teachers, administrators, parents, and the general public, as well as School Committee members.

Johnson's proposal includes draft questionnaires rating what priority on a scale of 1 to 10 should be given to applicants based on their education, their experience, their knowledge of management practices, budgetary practices, curriculum development, state and federal legislation, grant writing, educational technology, and their demonstrated skills and abilities.

The questionnaires will be distributed to School Committee members, teachers, and administrators during the last week in January. The questionnaire for parents and members of the general public will appear in the February 1st edition of *The Agawam Advertiser News*.

## Public Hearing During February 27th Meeting

As a final step in the priorities rating procedure, a public hearing will be held during the committee's February 27th meeting to solicit input from the community.

At the regular School Committee meeting on March 12th, Johnson suggests the committee set the priority ratings criteria based on a review of the results of the public hearing and the ratings questionnaires submitted by parents, teachers, and school administrators.

Johnson's timetable, which is similar to the one used during the search for a superintendent four years ago, calls for an application deadline of April 12th and selection of eight to 10 semifinalists by April 22nd. Interviews of the candidates are to be conducted by the School Committee during the first week in May. The interviews will be broadcast on the public access cable television station.

At its regular School Committee meeting on May 14th, the committee will announce three finalists. Site visits to the communities of the finalists will be conducted during the last two

SEE SEARCH - Page 7...


★ ★ ★

# Girl Scout Cookies.

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### 1996 City Council Members

**Nancy E. Thompson, President**  
786-0586  
19A Mansion Woods Drive  
Agawam, MA 01001

**Jill P. Simpson, Vice-President**  
786-0053  
24 Pleasant Valley Road  
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

**George Bitzas**  
789-1464  
33 Fernwood Drive  
Agawam, MA 01001

**Edward A. Caba**  
786-2479  
198 Walnut Street  
Agawam, MA 01001

**Thomas J. Ennis, Jr.**  
786-9402  
556 Springfield Street  
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

**Joseph F. Langone**  
786-3419  
180 Suffield Street  
Agawam, MA 01001

**Dennis J. Perry**  
786-1238  
466 North West Street  
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

**Christian M. Quatrone**  
786-4496  
75 Pleasant Valley Road  
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

**Kent P. Servis**  
789-1343  
48 Kathy Terrace  
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

**David Skolnick**  
786-1115  
331 Rowley Street  
P.O. Box 482  
Agawam, MA 01001

**Gary E. Suffriti**  
786-5516  
3 Cooper Street  
Agawam, MA 01001

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The Town Council asked us to print the name, address, and phone number of each council member the first of every month. Please clip & save.

### SEARCH - from Page 6...

weeks in May, and final interviews will be televised during the week of May 20th.

The new superintendent will be chosen at the regular School Committee meeting on May 28th, with contract negotiations scheduled to take place in June.

In addition to an application form detailing applicants' personal and professional history, Johnson is proposing to require a writing assignment to gauge each applicant's written communication skills.

In Johnson's proposed advertisement for the job, the salary package is listed as in the \$80,000 to \$90,000 range, and candidates must be certified or certifiable for the position of superintendent. A master's degree is required, but a doctorate is preferred. The deadline for applicants is listed as April 12th.

## Agawam Awarded Over \$200,000 In Grants From State For Children's Partnership

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan is pleased to announce that the Massachusetts Department of Education has awarded \$96,795 for FY 96 and \$116,154 for FY 97 to the Town of Agawam for the establishment of the Community Partnerships for Children Program. The funds will be administered by the Agawam Public Schools.

The Community Partnerships for Children Program was designed to increase comprehensive services for children through existing programs in the community: public schools, Head Start, and private programs. The program will provide working families in Agawam with comprehensive childcare services and the options that best meet their needs.

"This program will help provide affordable and accessible quality early childhood programs for children of working families," stated Rep. Keenan. "I am very pleased that Agawam received

these funds for such an important program."

A review board comprised of individuals from the Departments of Education, Public Health, Social Services, Transitional Assistance, the Executive Office of Human Services, the Regional Office of the Administration for Children and Families, as well as faculty members from several universities and colleges, and legislative aides, reviewed the submitted proposals. Evaluation of the proposals was based on a needs assessment of working families in the community.

The proposals covered early childcare, education, family education and literacy, health, and social services. Proposals were also based on how soundly and creatively the budget for services addressed the needs that were identified and how the goals of the program were met.



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## Agawam Obituaries

### Daniel P. Alexander

Daniel P. Alexander, 37, died Wednesday, January 10th, at his home in Onset unexpectedly. He was the son of the late Philip E. Alexander and Lois (Merwin) Knight and Richard E. Knight of Feeding Hills, MA.

Born in Springfield, Mr. Alexander graduated from Agawam High School in 1976. After his high school graduation, he hiked across the country and has lived in 47 of the 48 lower states.

Mr. Alexander moved to Onset in 1994 from Florida. He was most recently employed as a warehouse worker at Durkin's Contract Sales in N. Falmouth.

Mr. Alexander enjoyed hiking through the White Mountains and the Grand Canyon and was also an avid Grateful Dead fan. He also played harmonica with the local band known as "Buzzard Blue."

Besides his mother and stepfather, he is survived by two sisters, Susan E. Wills of Agawam and Amy J. LaValley of Westfield, and two nieces.

A funeral service was held at the Stott, Chapman, Cole & Gleason Funeral Home, 2599 Cranberry Highway (Rt. 28) in Wareham. Interment was private.

Donations in his memory may be made to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 968, Framingham, MA 01701.

### Nicolette J. Cooley-Sarnelli

Nicolette J. Cooley-Sarnelli, the infant daughter of Anthony N. Sarnelli and Michele A. Cooley of 703 Barry Street, Feeding Hills, died in Hartford Hospital.

Besides her parents, she leaves a brother, Dan C. Normandeau, and sister, Kristina L. Cooley-Sarnelli, at home; her grandparents, John and Nancy Cooley of Feeding Hills, and Augustino and Judith Sarnelli of Springfield; and her great-grandparents, Harold and Flora Allen, Gladys Belcher, and Ashley Cooley, all of Agawam.

The funeral was held at Colonial Funeral Home and Sacred Heart Church, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery, both in Feeding Hills.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 1111 Elm Street, Suite 9a, West Springfield, MA 01089.

## Power Plant Opponents Feel Things Beginning To Swing Their Way

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

The Zoning Board of Appeals' decision to deny Berkshire Power a special permit for a 250 megawatt power plant to be built on Moylan Lane ushered in a happy start of the new year for opponents of the project.

For the Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam (CCBA), the first week in January opened with its first victory in the fight to keep the power plant from being built on what they say is an inappropriate location. The week culminated in a successful fundraiser that netted the group over \$2,000 to continue their David and Goliath struggle.

CCBA spokesman Kenneth Forni praised the ZBA for its hard work in considering all the information submitted by both sides of the issue and for the professional way the public hearings were conducted.

But Forni said his group disagreed with the decision to write both a majority and a minority opinion after the board split in a 2 to 1 vote.

Furthermore, CCBA scorned the town's decision to appoint the town solicitor to defend the majority opinion and town assistant solicitor to defend the minority opinion.

ZBA Chairman Ronald Hebert and member Doreen Prouty voted in favor of granting the special permit subject to a list of 47 conditions. Member Raymond Gendron voted against granting the permit.

Because decisions of the ZBA must be unanimous, the special permit was denied.

"Why is there one attorney for the majority opinion and one for the minority opinion when there is no such thing as a majority and a minority opinion? There is only one decision: the special permit was denied and the laws of our town have to be defended by our town solicitor," Forni said.

Forni said the ZBA decision proves that the system works and that the zoning laws are meant to protect the citizens and businesses in town.

"The question now is whether our politicians

are going to rally around the townspeople or the outsiders who are going to court to tell the town how to run its business," Forni said.

### Berkshire Power Files An Appeal...

Last week, Berkshire Power filed an appeal in Hampden County Superior Court asking that the ZBA's minority decision be annulled and that the court order the ZBA to grant the zoning relief requested in accordance with the ZBA's majority opinion.

According to Berkshire Power's appeal, the ZBA minority opinion "does not correctly apply the appropriate standard of review for the relief sought... (and) is unreasonable and arbitrary because it does not have a substantial basis of fact, and is not reasonably based on evidence of record before the board."

Berkshire Power project manager Kenneth Roberts said he remains confident that the plant ultimately will be permitted and will be built in Agawam.

"We have no plans to go to our secondary site (in Southwick) at this time," Roberts said.

Forni said support for the CCBA has been growing with many new faces at its fundraiser.

"There were a lot of young people who said they had been reading about the issue in the papers," Forni said. "These people have young families and they don't want to see the power plant built here."

About 130 people attended the fundraiser. Forni said the hall and staff were donated by the Crestview Country Club.

Background music was provided by pianists Brad Tilden and Erin Cocchi. Food and prizes were donated by EB's Chicken, Springfield Corrugated Box, Cordo, and Country Estates.

Forni said the group will use the funds "to fight Berkshire Power down the road."

"If Berkshire Power decides to go to an alternate site, we'll donate the money to our school system," Forni said.

## Agawam Democratic Comm. To Meet On Wed., January 24th

The Agawam Democratic Committee will hold its first meeting of the new year on Wednesday, January 24, 1996, at 7:00 p.m. in the Faolin Peirce Community Room of the Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.

The purpose of the Agawam Democratic Committee as set forth in its bylaws is "to foster and advance the ideals and aims of the Democratic Party of the city, state, and nation." Meetings are open to the public, and all interested persons are invited to attend.

For further information, contact Barbara Dunn, Chairperson, at 786-7147 or Joanne Willis, Secretary, at 789-1360.

**PLEASE REMEMBER to publicize your events at least two weeks in advance. Our deadline is every Tuesday at noon, but we do appreciate those who bring in their copy and classifieds on Monday. We open weekdays at 6:30 a.m. Jack Devine needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Call Jack at 789-0053.**

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## from the State Senate

by State Senator Linda J. Melconian

### It Is Time For A Change In Senate's Leadership

The end of an era. The beginning of a new day. These are some of the phrases that are being spoken and written about the change of Senate leadership with the resignation of William Bulger and the election of Thomas Birmingham as Senate President. I think it is appropriate to take a look at the era that has passed and the one that is only just beginning.

William Bulger has had a commanding influence on Massachusetts politics for the last 17 years as Senate President and 35 years in public service. Admired and maligned, often at the same time, he has survived the test of time, outlasting three House Speakers, three Governors, and four U.S. presidents. To say that he has been a driving force in Massachusetts politics would be an understatement. His imperious tenure as President has been nothing short of legendary.

Many have called Bulger "Machiavellian" in nature, and they might have some basis. William Bulger ruled the Senate with an iron hand. He knew his agenda and was very persuasive in arguing for it. On the other hand, he would build consensus on important issues. He always did what he felt was best for the Commonwealth, and he

did so in an honest, albeit assertive way. President Bulger upheld the integrity of the Senate, understanding that it has an important and vital role in shaping public policy.

But as Bulger said himself, "I think we need a change in government every 17 years." It was time for new but equally effective leadership, and Thomas Birmingham fits this mold. Harvard and Oxford educated, a Rhode Scholar, no one can question his scholarly credentials.

However, it is not his extraordinary educational background alone that will make Senator Birmingham an effective Senate President. It is his open, comfortable style of leadership, combined with his commitment to strengthen the entire Commonwealth, which will serve him well. As Chairman of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, Birmingham was constantly reconciling differences and reaching tough compromises. He was able to skillfully communicate with each member, listening and responding to our concerns whenever possible.

I could see that even as a freshman Senator, Birmingham had already mastered Tip O'Neill's maxim, "All politics are local." He asked his colleagues to support him in resolving the financial crisis in his hometown of Chelsea which resulted in legislation putting the city into a Receivership category. Even with his Harvard and Oxford intellect, he strongly adheres to his Chelsea "working class roots and values."

I firmly believe Birmingham possesses the skills to be a great Senate President. His leadership style will continue to evolve, but he exudes a sense of authority and influence, leaving me with no doubt that he will represent the institution of the Senate with dignity, firmness, and effective articulation.

So the era of Bulger has come to an end, and the time for Thomas F. Birmingham has arrived. The Senate prospered under Bulger's leadership, but I must say it is time for a change. President Birmingham will wield a strong but fair gavel, conducting the Senate in a more open manner with individual members having more say in public policy. His style of leadership is exactly what the Senate needs.

## Citizens Group Forms To Spur Growth In Agawam's Economy

A new citizens' group in Agawam has recently formed to help support responsible economic growth in Agawam. The Concerned Agawam Taxpayers (CAT) will act to help create a more positive atmosphere in the community.

"Our group is concerned with the negative tone that surrounds new proposals in our community. We worry that this negativism will hamper future economic growth—putting an increased burden on residential taxpayers. We believe that if Agawam is going to grow and prosper, it must attract new industry and expand its tax base. CAT will work to welcome new business into our community in an effort to secure a viable economic future for Agawam. CAT will also work to counter any negative discourse that threatens to divide our town," said former Town Councilor Vivian Dziardziel, one of the group's spokespersons.

Citing recent actions against companies such as Fisher Scientific and Berkshire Power, CAT members said they will seek to take a more active role in community affairs. CAT members encourage Agawam residents and businesses who care about creating a POSITIVE image and encouraging responsible economic development in Agawam to attend their next meeting on Wednesday, January 24th, 7:30-9:00 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library.

For more information, call 786-2913 or 789-7589.

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## Families

### Junior Women's Club Names New Board



SOME OF THE NEW board members of the Agawam Junior Women's Club at the Annual Banquet on January 5th. From left - Cindy Taylor, publicity; Pat Belisle, newsletter; Donna Shibley, Ways & Means; and Carol Patrick, Ways & Means. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



MORE MEMBERS OF THE new board of the Agawam Junior Women's Club for the 1996 club year. From left - Betty Vershan, recording secretary; Stephanie Bertagnoli, 2nd vice-president; Liz Taylor, president; Ann Woodard, 1st vice-president; and Laura Paul, corresponding secretary. Missing - Eva Jack, treasurer. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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### Volunteers Sought For Storowton Village's Programs, Gift Shop

Storowton Village Museum, located on the grounds of Eastern States Exposition, is seeking individuals interested in becoming volunteers for its many tours, children's programs, gift shop, and special programs planned for the 1996 season.

Volunteerism has been the lifeblood of the historic Village which presents a glimpse of life in early New England through guided tours and unique programs since the 1930's.

Historic Storowton Village holds weekday school programs for children throughout the academic year. Adults interested should be available from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. one day a week. The winter training program begins the week of January 29th.

The Village is also looking for adult and teenage volunteers to participate as costumed interpreters of 19th century living history and crafts. Training is provided for all volunteers who will fill the roles as villagers in homes, buildings, and the Storowton Village Gift Shop.

If you would like to learn more about volunteer opportunities or schedule an interview to become a volunteer at Storowton Village Museum, call Dennis Picard, program coordinator at 413-787-0136.



### Ask Dr.

by Stephen Jacapraro,  
D.M.D.

1379 Main Street,  
Agawam, MA 01001  
(413) 786-8177

### DANGEROUS FANGS

**Q.** How are gold fangs made, and how popular are they?

**A.** Made of gold to look like vampire fangs, these bizarre ornaments inspired by several reigning rappers have turned up in small numbers in some urban areas. Fangs and other types of "mouth jewelry" are produced by a few jewelry stores, which fashion them to fit over natural teeth. There are serious questions about their effect on oral health. Customers are advised not to wear the mouth jewelry when eating or sleeping.

There are other negatives. At least one buyer has admitted regrets about spending \$500 for a novelty that soon lost its appeal. A worse case: A young man in Brooklyn lost his life reportedly because someone coveted his diamond-studded fangs. As one ethical jeweler put it about mouth jewelry: "This is unhealthy. If you need a gold cap, go to the dentist."

### DENTISTRY THEN AND NOW

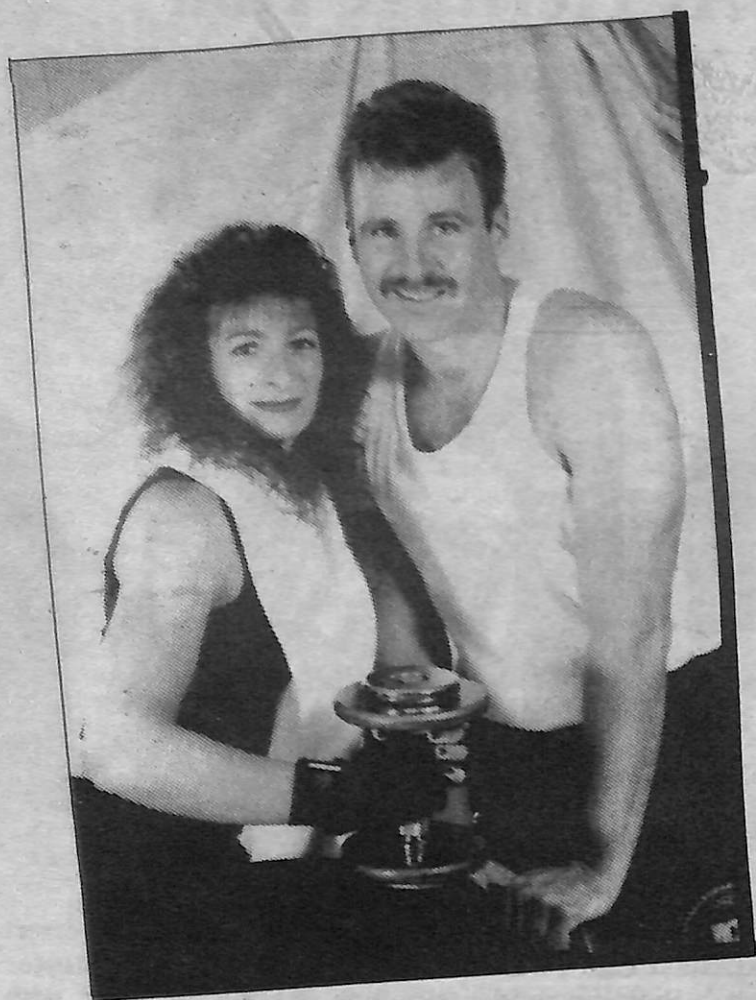
**Q.** How did the practice of dentistry evolve?

**A.** In ancient times a physician treated all kinds of ills, including tooth problems. Progress in dentistry varied among civilizations. In the 5th century B.C., physicians in Egypt specialized in only one health-care field, such as dentistry. In the 1st century A.D., dental services for Romans who could afford them included bridgework, replacement teeth and wiring of teeth, often utilizing gold. But for much of the world, there was little progress in dentistry until the 20th century.

Today Americans are benefitting from remarkable advances in dentistry in the last few decades. Prevention or prompt treatment of decay and gum disease enable more people to retain their teeth as they age. New materials and techniques now make it possible to improve the appearance of teeth that are irregularly spaced, misshapen or discolored. Are your teeth and gums getting the attention they deserve so they can last a lifetime in optimum condition? How long has it been since you consulted the dentist or had a checkup.

Brought to you as a public service by Dr. Stephen R. Jacapraro, D.M.D., 1379 Main St., Agawam, MA 01001, (413) 786-8177.





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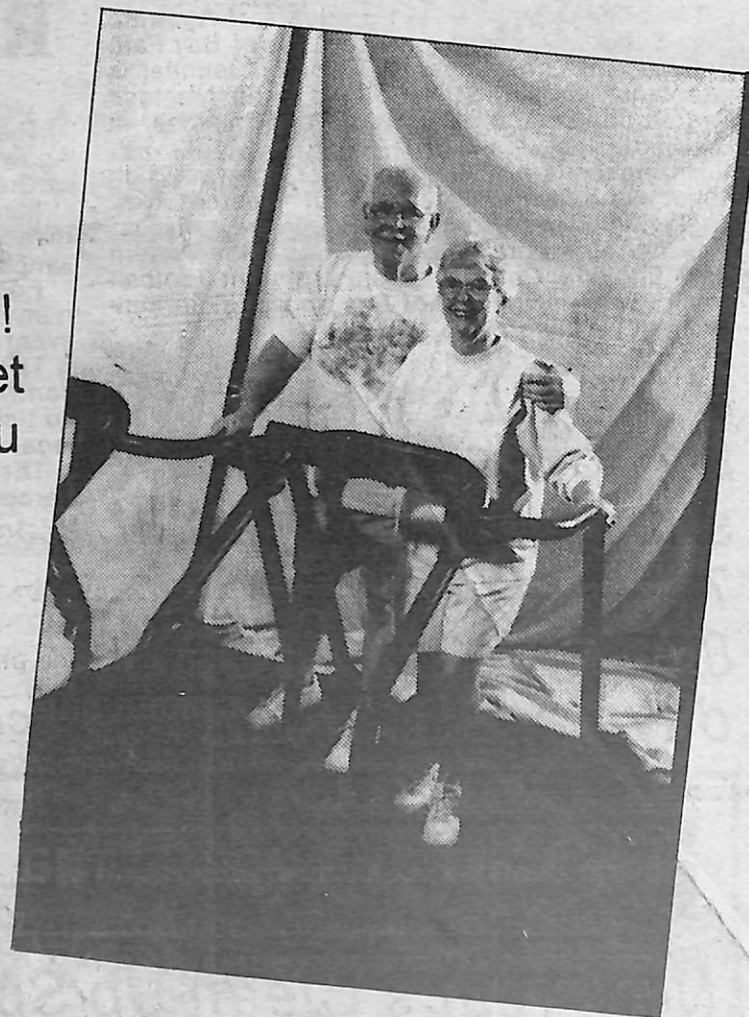
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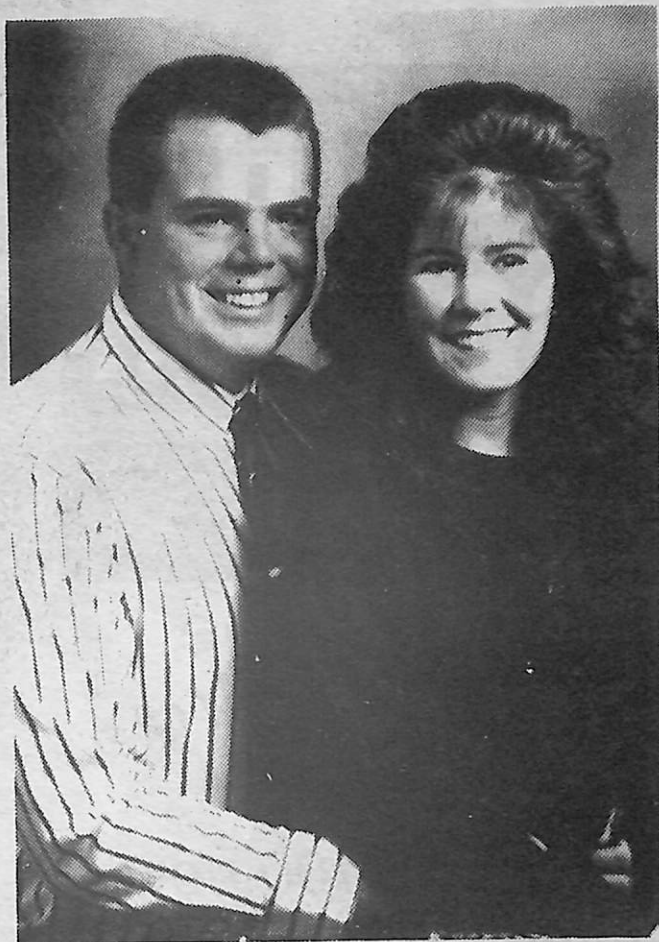
*Fitness Evaluation and monthly dues may vary depending on type of membership.*

**FINAL  
DAYS**



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JENNIFER BRITTAIN &amp; JOHN BENJAMIN

## Jennifer Brittain Engaged To Wed

Marsha and Paul Brittain would like to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer, to John Benjamin. They are planning a July 1997 wedding.

The bride-to-be is a 1991 graduate of Agawam High School. She also is a graduate of Bay Path College and Elms College. Currently, Jennifer is attending Westfield State College for her Master's Degree in Special Education and resides in Feeding Hills.

Her fiancé is a 1990 graduate of Agawam High School and a 1994 graduate of Western New England College. He is now employed with Progressive Builders of Feeding Hills and Western New England College as an assistant football coach. John is the son of Roy and Virginia Benjamin of Feeding Hills.

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## Activities At Heritage Hall



IN PHOTO LEFT, Heritage Hall Nursing Home resident Dorothy King enjoys some dessert during a holiday social with nursing assistant Gail Pirnie and South Building administrator Jeff Heinze. IN PHOTO RIGHT, South Building resident Pauline Bekes is pictured with youth volunteer Jessica Circosta-Aspinall at the Annual Holiday Bazaar. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



## Concerned Citizens & Businesses Raise Over \$2,000 At Fundraiser

The Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam held a fundraiser Saturday, January 6th, at Crestview Country Club.

Many residents of Agawam and local business owners attended the \$10-per-person function, which raised in excess of \$2,000.

Food and raffle prizes were donated by numerous Agawam businesses which made the event a tremendous success.

The CCBA wishes to thank all businesses who contributed and Agawam residents who purchased tickets. All funds raised will be used to defray legal costs against Berkshire Power.

The event was planned by Kevin Vitale, Joe Cardaropoli, and Susan Amabile at Crestview Country Club with the superb culinary skills of executive chef David Fishkind.

ecutive chef David Fishkind.

The evening was enhanced by Agawam students and professional pianists Brad Tilden and Erin Cocchi. The music these young professionals provided was outstanding, and the CCBA appreciates their contribution to the cocktail reception.

Additionally, the staff of Crestview was assisted by Agawam students Jenna Bodurtha, Jessica Forni, Steven Forni, and Frankie Roda. These young people are commended for their volunteer service to the community.

In addition to the 20-plus businesses against the siting of a power plant, the fundraiser showed great community support for the growing citizens' group.

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## Feeding Hills Residents Gather To Support Our 4-Legged Friends

The laughter, good cheer, games, and holiday spirit that filled the Lydick residence on Paul Revere Drive in Feeding Hills one Sunday night in mid-December may have sounded like a typical holiday bash, but the purpose of this party was more than just the traditional festivity of the season.

And while many of the guests may have acted like party animals, it was only because this was a party for animals—the four-legged kind.

The first annual "Holiday Animal Party" was organized by Diana "Dee" Gregory-Lydick and her husband, Michael, to benefit homeless pets at the Springfield shelter of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA). "During the holiday season, it's often easy to forget about our needy four-legged friends who are without homes," said Gregory-Lydick. "This was a true animal party because everyone who attended brought gifts for the Springfield shelter."

Nearly a dozen people from Agawam area came to the animal-themed party. Besides the usual treats of cheese and crackers and eggnog, there were plenty of dog biscuits and cat treats on hand as well, not to eat, but for atmospheric flavor and as part of the "animal" games. Among the games were animal charades where guests had to act out a song, a phrase, or object that related to animals. Contests included naming the most famous dogs in TV and movies, guessing the number of dog biscuits in a fish bowl and a raffle for a Lion King throw blanket.

The highlight of the party was the appearance of "Scoop," the feline mascot of the Springfield MSPCA. During her brief visit, "Scoop" shook paws with the guests and received numerous scratches from her human admirers.

Area companies, including Dave's Soda and Pet City of Agawam, and Pet Supplies Plus of West Springfield, donated items for the event. Among the items received from partygoers for the shelter were blankets, towels, hundreds of dog treats, cat and dog toys, a Polaroid camera, and cleaning supplies.

"The people who attended this party are a special ingredient to what we hope will become a unique annual event," said Gregory-Lydick.

Nancy Carroll, Director of the MSPCA Shelter in Springfield, said the kindness of the people at the Lydick Holiday Animal Party was overwhelming. "This party not only supported the MSPCA's rescue and placement efforts, but it helped tremendously to further educate people in the communities about the welfare of homeless pets. I thank and commend Dee for her heroic efforts on behalf of our shelter."



SCOOP, the feline mascot of the MSPCA shelter in Springfield, greets the Mercolino Family of Barry Street, Feeding Hills, from left - Ellie, Sheila, and Henry. Scoop was the mystery guest at the First Annual Holiday Animal Party hosted by Mike & Dee Lydick.

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KAYLEEN ASHLEY GEROW

## Devines Announce Birth Of Newest Granddaughter

Agawam Advertiser News photographer Jack Devine and his wife Margaret are proud grandparents again!

Kayleen Ashley Gerow was born on January 12, 1996, weighing eight pounds, 12 ounces, and measuring 21 inches long.

Kayleen is the first child of Cathleen (Devine) Gerow and Gregg Gerow of Southwick. First-time grandparents are Wallace and Margaret Gerow of Dade City, Florida, and Lillian Gerow of Rutland, Vermont.

Kayleen is the 12th great-grandchild of Myrna Sleeper of Zephyr Hills, Florida, and she was also welcomed by seven aunts and uncles and several cousins.

*For glossy copies of photos in this edition, please contact Jack Devine at 789-0053.*



MEMBERS OF THE PIETRONIRO FAMILY - Vinnie, Michael (center), and Carol are pictured at the 1995 "Dinner-Dance For Epilepsy" event. This year's event is slated for March 9th at The Oaks banquet facility.

## Pietroniro Fundraising Committee To Again Hold "Dinner-Dance For Epilepsy"

Due to the great response from the residents of Feeding Hills and surrounding communities for last year's event, the Michael Pietroniro Fundraising Committee is organizing its second annual Dinner-Dance for Epilepsy to be held on Saturday, March 9, 1996, at The Oaks banquet facility in Agawam.

Entertainment for this event will be the popular rock 'n roll show band, The Crescents. The social hour will begin at 6:00 p.m., and tickets are \$25 per person.

Once again, the proceeds from this event will benefit the Epilepsy Foundation of Massachusetts and the Comprehensive Epilepsy Program at Children's Hospital in Boston.

For those of you who don't know Michael Pietroniro, he is the nine year-old son of Feeding Hills residents Vincent and Carol Pietroniro. Michael has undergone nine major brain surgeries and has been on every anti-epileptic drug available, special diets, steroid treatments, as well as being the very first child to receive the experimental Vagal Stimulator Implant.

Michael's last surgery in December of 1994 left

him with paralysis on his left side. Despite all efforts to control his epilepsy, Michael continues to have seizures daily. This very special nine year-old boy is an inspiration to all who know him with his bright smile and determination.

Michael currently attends the James Clark School, where he is enrolled in the Integrated Program. He is just one of many children and adults in our community who are affected by epilepsy. We hope to feature several of these special individuals in the upcoming weeks.

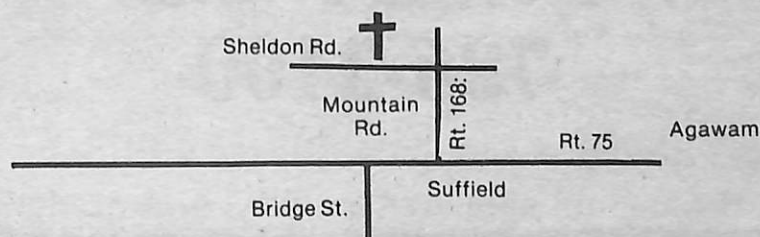
The tremendous outpouring of support received by the Pietroniro family for their son Michael has prompted the fundraising committee to continue in their efforts to raise awareness and funds to further research in the hope that uncontrolled epilepsy may one day be a thing of the past.

Please plan to join us for an evening of fun for a great cause on Saturday, March 9, 1996. For more information or tickets, please call Wayne & Sue Hearn, 789-1529; Gary & Janet Shean, 786-2709; Rich & Kathy Karam, 786-5426; Rick & Kim Martel, 786-1169; or Dean & Susan Shaw, 569-0474.

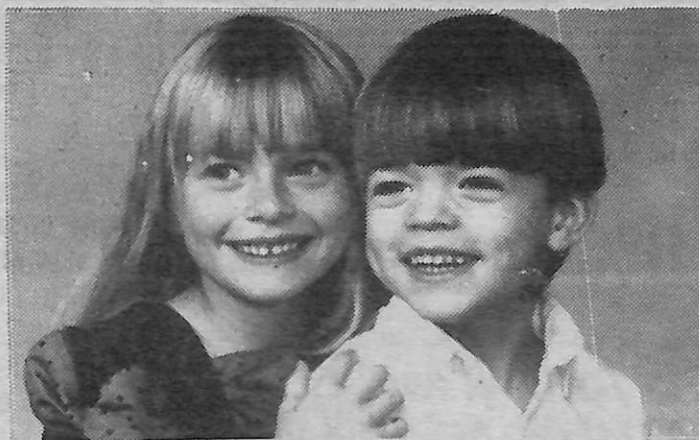


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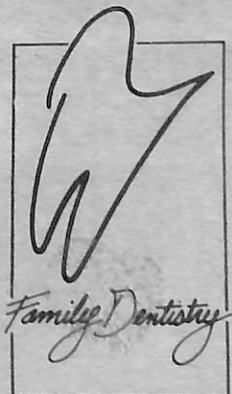
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## Chef Of The Month



**POPULAR LOCAL CHEF EDWARD G. BORGATTI, SR.**, owner of E.B.'s Specialty Chicken Restaurant on Walnut St. Ext., was the "Chef of the Month" at a January 10th program held at Country Estates Nursing & Rehab facility. Borgatti, a former police officer, is considered a prominent chef in the region. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## McDonald House Has Birthday Gala At Chez Josef

The Ronald McDonald House of Springfield will celebrate five years of "The House that Love Built" at its annual Birthday Gala on January 27th at Chez Josef in Agawam.

The public is invited to attend the Birthday Gala, and tickets at \$35 per person are available by calling 784-LOVE.

All proceeds from the celebration will directly benefit the Ronald McDonald House, which opened its door in January of 1991. Since that time, the House that Love Built has provided lodging for families from as far away as the Middle East, while their children are being treated at Baystate Medical Center and Shriners Hospital.

The evening will begin at 7:30 p.m. and include a sumptuous buffet of foods. Dancing, provided by the band "Reflection," will round out the festivities.

"Events such as the Birthday Gala and other activities supported by the public provide the funds necessary to keep this wonderful project going for the families of sick children," said James C. Owen, co-chair for the event.

The Ronald McDonald House is located at 34 Chapin Terrace, Springfield.

## "Oldies Dance" At Polish Club To Benefit Operation Friendship

The seventh annual "Oldies Dance" will take place on Saturday, January 27th, at the Polish American Club, Southwick Street, Feeding Hills.

The dance will run from 8:00 p.m. to 12 midnight. Advance tickets are \$6; tickets at the door will be \$7. Music will be provided by DJ "Dancing Dave," and there will be a raffle and door prizes.

This event is being sponsored by the Feeding Hills Chapter of Operation Friendship of America (a youth cultural exchange program). Proceeds from the dance will be used to help defer travel expenses for eight of our youth that will be traveling to Europe this summer.

For tickets, please call Kathy Cassanelli at 789-1255.

## Concert To Benefit Heart Fund Slated At American Legion

**Crooked Hook Records**, located at 168 Elm Street in Agawam, is proud to announce that its entire artist roster will participate in a benefit concert for the **American Heart Fund**.

The concert will occur on January 29, 1996 at the **American Legion Post 185** - Springfield Street in Agawam. All proceeds will be donated to the Heart Fund in the names of **Peter and Michael Anton**, who were very close friends of Crooked Hook label president - Tony Impoco.

Artists slated to appear include: **Hooker Crook**, **Bob "Papa C." Casinhino**, **Peace by Peace**, and **Tony Impoco's Electric City**. An open jam session is also scheduled, as well as a smorgasbord.

The show is open to the general public and will run from 8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. In addition to their time, the artists will contribute several of their recorded works to be given to donors.

*All the local news with us*

## Local Toastmasters Receive Award For 1995 Accomplishments

The Agawam/West Springfield Toastmasters Club was honored recently for the club's accomplishments in 1995. District Public Relations Officer William Corbert III presented Club President Jim Frantz with the **DISTINGUISHED CLUB** award for accumulating 8,960 points in a competition with all other clubs in the New England district.

The Toastmasters speaking clubs earn points for various club-building activities, and a minimum of 2,500 points are required to be considered for the award.

The Agawam/West Springfield Toastmasters Club meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at the Country Estates of Agawam on Route 75 in Agawam. This non-profit chapter focuses on building self-confidence through effective public speaking skills, and meetings are always open to the public.

For more information, contact Club President Jim Frantz at 786-6974.

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Land O' Lakes White American Cheese ..... \$2.89 Lb.

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Local Potatoes (10 Lb. Bag) ..... \$1.39

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*Best local news*



## Riverside Employees Gather For Annual Party



**RIVERSIDE PARK EMPLOYEES** gathered for the Annual Christmas Party last month at the Polish American Club in Feeding Hills. Standing, from left - Bob Munson, Bob Cignoli, Nadine Carroll, park owner Edward Carroll, Shawn Connelly, and Margaret and Jane Hajec. Seated - Abbey Cignoli, Lorna Lewis, and Michelle Connelly. **IN PHOTO RIGHT**, Bob Munson draws raffle winner with the help of Jason Freedman. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

### Agawam/West Side Toastmasters To Meet Thursday, Jan. 25th

The next meeting of the Agawam/West Side Toastmasters will take place on Thursday, January 25th.

The meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of every month at Country Estates Nursing Home, Route 75, Agawam, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Please park in rear of building.

Call 786-6920 or 789-1366 for more information.

*Best local news*

### Pfc. Anthony Circosta Completes Basic At Fort Leonard Wood

Army Pfc. Anthony G. Circosta has completed basic training at Fort Leonard E. Wood, Waynesville, Missouri.

During the training, students received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, first aid, and Army history and traditions.

Circosta is the son of Emily Guidi of 1172 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, and Antonio Circosta of Sherman Road, Enfield, CT.

He is a 1995 graduate of Agawam High School.

### Ag. Women's Club To Meet January 22nd At Capt. Leonard House

The next monthly meeting of the Agawam Women's Club is scheduled for Monday, January 22nd, at the Captain Charles Leonard House at 7:30 p.m.

The program for the evening will be crafts by Kathy. Vivian Roberts and her committee will be hostesses for the evening.

Reservations for the annual meeting will be accepted by the banquet committee. Come and join us for the evening.

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MR. &amp; MRS. MICHAEL J. PAWLOSKI

## Cynthia Carpenter Weds Michael Pawloski

Cynthia Jean Carpenter and Michael James Pawloski were recently married at St. David's Episcopal Church, Agawam. Officiating at the ceremony was the Reverend Leonard C. Cowan.

Attending the bride as maid-of-honor was her friend, Jacquelyn Bouer and best man was Stephen Vanasse, II, friend of the groom.

The bride is the daughter of Herbert and Jean Carpenter of Feeding Hills. She is a graduate of Agawam High School and North Adams State College and is an environmental analyst for the Department of Environmental Protection in Springfield.

The groom is the son of Mrs. Tharen A. Pawloski of Northampton and the late Stanley J. Pawloski. He is a graduate of Northampton High School and Holyoke Community College and is employed as a firefighter for the City of Northampton.

A reception was held at Chez Josef and the couple honeymooned in Bermuda.

## Adolescents Seminar Slated January 25th At Fitness First

Fitness First will be holding their third Family Series lecture on Thursday, January 25th, entitled "Managing Adolescents."

Agawam High School Adjustment Counselor Joanne Bertrand will be speaking on how to help your child improve his/her self-esteem and performance in school and at home. Ms. Bertrand has had her career in education for 14 years and currently owns a private limited practice.

The lecture will run from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Fitness First at 60 North Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Pre-registration is suggested as space is limited.

Please call Fitness First at 786-1460 to register. There is a \$3 fee per person. Proceeds will go towards the Children's Miracle Network at Baystate Medical Center.

## Junior Women's Club Slates Open House/ Membership Party

Tired of being snowbound? Looking for relief from the winter blues? Come to the Agawam Junior Women's Club's Open House/Membership Party and find out how you make new friends while helping our community.

We're looking for a few good women to join the Agawam Junior Women's Club. We are an organization dedicated to providing support to our community in a wide variety of areas.

Some of our projects include: our Annual Arts & Crafts Festival for scholarships, Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday Baskets for needy families, Pancake Breakfast with Santa & Mrs. Claus, Spelling Bee, Essay Contest for middle school students, ushering at StageWest, and more.

Club social events include a monthly Fun Night (for members and their significant others) and Craft Nights for members. We also have family activities such as an Easter Party for the children and an annual Family Cookout.

Monthly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House on Main Street in Agawam.

If this sounds interesting, please join us at our Open House/Membership Party on Tuesday, February 13th. It will be held at the Captain Charles Leonard House from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Members will be available to answer questions and discuss club activities.

If you have any questions, please call Stephanie, Agawam Junior Women's Club Membership Chairwoman, at 786-4578.

## Jr. Women's Club Seeks Crafters For Spring Crafts Fair

Crafters are sought for the Agawam Junior Women's Club 22nd Annual Arts & Crafts Festival scheduled for Saturday, June 1st from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

The Festival will be held at the Captain Charles Leonard House on Main Street in Agawam. All types of artisans and crafters are invited to participate in this event.

The show will be juried and feature 80-100 exhibitors. Admission is free and all proceeds benefit the AJWC Scholarship Fund.

For more information or an application, call Margaret at 786-2651 or Patti at 786-6491.

## Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, January 22nd:** Country pie (hamburger, rice, tomatoes, cheese), broccoli and cauliflower, oatmeal bread, banana.

**Tuesday, January 23rd:** Beef stew (beef chunks, celery, potatoes, carrots), tossed salad, Canadian oat bread, cookie.

**Wednesday, January 24th:** Baked chicken breast, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, whole wheat bread, baked custard.

**Thursday, January 25th:** Roast turkey, stuffing with gravy, butter-nut squash, pumpernickel bread, chocolate pudding with whipped topping.

**Friday, January 26th:** Clam chowder, tuna salad sandwich, macaroni salad, canned peaches.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

## Swim Class Sign-Up Is Extended At Fitness First

Fitness First in Feeding Hills has extended its deadline to sign up for their next session of swim classes.

All children's swim classes (except for Beginner Swim) will begin January 20th. Children's Classes run for eight weeks. Times vary depending upon the class.

Classes offered are Toddler Swim & Gym, Baby Swim & Gym, Preschool Swim & Gym, Advanced Swim, Baby Swim Only, and Toddler Swim Only.

If you would like to enroll your child or find out more about these programs, please call Fitness First at 786-1460 or stop by the health club on North Westfield Street.

*best local news...*

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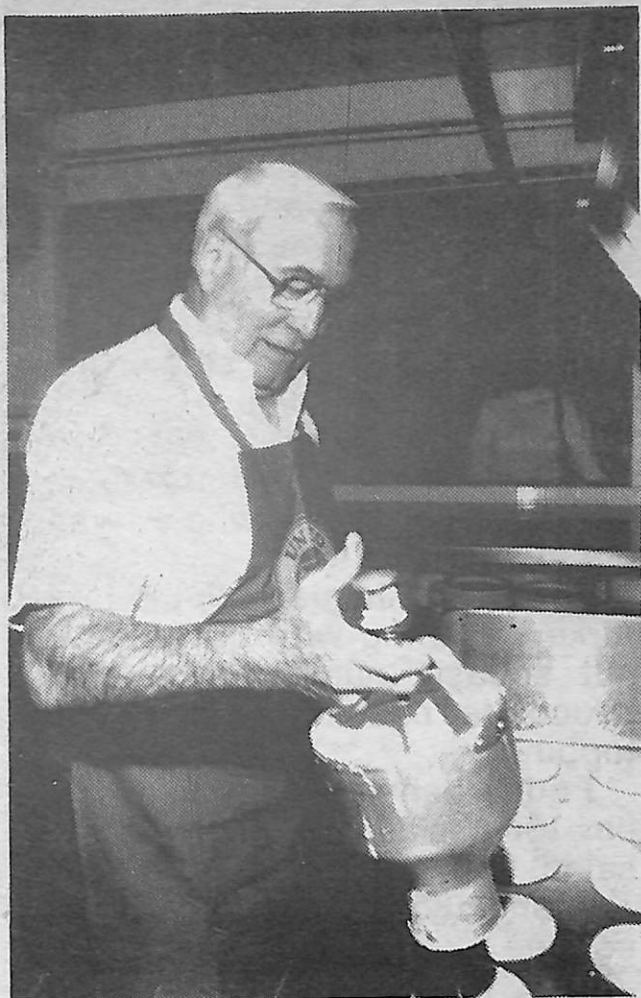
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## UNICO Holds Annual Pancake Breakfast At Senior Center



AS USUAL, AGAWAM UNICO MEMBER Ed Disco was working hard in the kitchen at last month's pancake breakfast held at the Senior Center. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



THE ASHWELL KIDS, Cassie, 7, and Dalton, 4, eat their pancake breakfast served by members of Agawam UNICO last month at the Agawam Senior Center. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

### Local AARP Chapter To Hold Luncheon

The Agawam/Feeding Hills Chapter No. 4915 of AARP will not hold a regular meeting in January. A Winter Festival luncheon on January 22nd is planned instead. The luncheon is to be held at Storowton Tavern, Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Social Hour will be from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

The choice of menu, including appetizer, coffee, and dessert, is boneless breast of chicken, broiled Boston scrod, or Yankee pot roast. The price is \$13 per person. This includes tax and gratuity.

For reservations, call Rose Paro at 786-5797 or Ruth Pieper at 786-8335. Tickets must be paid by January 18th.

Anyone who is a member of the National AARP is invited to attend. Chapter members may bring guests.

Come join us for this Winter Festival luncheon. A good time will be had by all.

*Check our classified*



AGAWAM UNICO WIVES, from left - Pat Lalancette, Judy DiLullo, and Marge Disco were supervising the baked goods table at last month's pancake breakfast held at the Agawam Senior Center. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



AGAWAM UNICO MEMBERS, from left - Rudy Altobelli, Richie Forni, Mike Fazio, and Al DallaPegorara were some of the volunteers at last month's pancake breakfast at the Agawam Senior Center. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



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MICHELLE MONKIEWICZ &amp; WAYNE PARKER

## Michelle Monkiewicz To Wed Wayne Parker

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Stares of Southwick and paternal grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Walter Monkiewicz of Feeding Hills are happy to announce the engagement of Michelle Ann Monkiewicz to Wayne Alden Parker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alden Parker and grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Wilford "Tex" Parker of West Springfield.

A February 17, 1996 wedding is planned.

*Classified ads are \$10 for 30 words or less. Mail to Box 263, FH, MA 01030 or bring to our office.*

## Another One Bites The Dust!



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## Donna J. Anderson To Wed Mr. Gregory

Donald Anderson of 35 Carlton Street, Springfield, announces the engagement of his daughter, Donna Jean Anderson of Springfield, to Christopher John Gregory of Agawam.

The future bridegroom is the son of Robert and Paulina Gregory of 88 Chestnut Lane, Agawam. The future bride is also the daughter of the late Anna Anderson.

The wedding is planned for September 28, 1996.

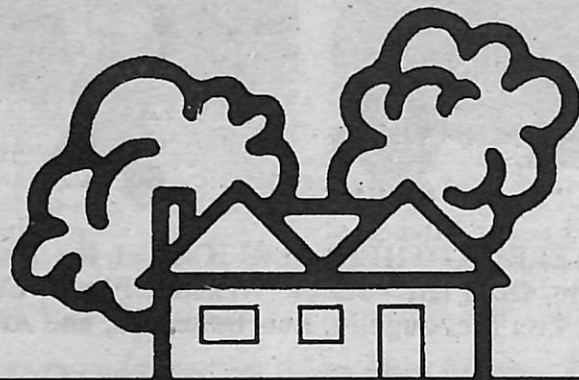
The future bride is a graduate of the High School of Commerce, Springfield, Asnuntuck Community College, Enfield, CT, and is attending Lesley College, Cambridge, pursuing a degree in management and finance. She is employed by the U.S. Government in East Hartford, CT, and is serving in the Air Force Reserves, stationed at Westover Air Reserve Base, Chicopee.

The prospective bridegroom is a graduate of Cathedral High School, Springfield, and Manhattanville College, Purchase, N.Y., with a degree in management. He is a store manager at Strawberries, Inc., Farmington, CT.



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MEMBER F.D.I.C.





# Church News

## Holiday Bazaar Held At Agawam Baptist Church



**VOLUNTEERING THEIR SERVICES** at the Annual Holiday Bazaar at the Agawam First Baptist Church are, from left - Jeanne Webster, Phyllis Catchepaugh, Nina Bailey, Sharon Grabowski, Edith Gottsche, Lisa McLaughlin, Lois Buiniskas, and Aletha Hodge. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

### News And Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Sunday School for children and adults begins at 9:00 a.m. Children are then welcome to attend worship with their parents at 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Donaldson will preach a sermon entitled "How to Have One Church; Indivisible, With Unity and Justice for All." Nursery care will be provided.

Annual reports have been collated and are ready for church members to pick up. The annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 28th, immediately after church. Reports will be discussed at that time.

A Pot Luck Luncheon will be held in conjunction with the meeting. Please use the sign-up sheet in Griswold Hall if you are planning to attend.

Calling all students ages eight and up: If you wish to be an acolyte during the Sunday Services, please sign up on the sign-up sheet in Griswold Hall. Both experienced and new acolytes need to sign up by Sunday, January 21st.

The new schedule will begin on February 3rd. Training is provided and will be held immediately after church on Sunday, January 28th. Please consider doing this important responsibility for your church.

If you have any questions, please see Sharon Rozanski or call her at 786-8743.

Blanket Sunday will again be sponsored this year by the Ladies Benevolent Society on February 5, 1996. For each \$5 gift you give, Church World Service can buy one durable blanket to provide a child, refugee, or disaster victim with comfort and warmth.

A blanket can be used in many ways for those who have nothing. Special envelopes will be found in the pews that morning for you to put in the offering plate. You may send a contribution to the church if you prefer.

Help us spread warmth throughout the world!

On the calendar this week:

**Saturday, January 20th:** 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., OF Railroad Luncheon.

**Sunday, January 21st:** 9:00 a.m., Sunday School/Adult Bible Literacy; 10:00 a.m., Worship Service; 1:30 to 3:00 p.m., Youth Group (10 and up).

**Monday, January 22nd:** 5:15 p.m., Girl Scouts.

**Tuesday, January 23rd:** 7:00 p.m., A.A.

**Wednesday, January 24th:** 2:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Choir.

**Thursday, January 25th:** 7:45 p.m., Cub Scouts Committee.

### "Question Of Giving" Topic Of Sermon At First Baptist Church On Jan. 21st

"A Question of Giving" will be the topic of Pastor Richard Barnes' sermon this Sunday at morning worship beginning at 9:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church.

Scriptural text is taken from Malachi 3: 1-15. There will be classes for all ages following worship, and coffee and conversation will be held as usual in Davis Hall.

The Deacons are reminded that there will be a special meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Of special importance this Sunday evening will be an AIDS Awareness Program, presented by Richard Serrano, and sponsored by the Caring Connection and the Youth Groups.

A spaghetti supper will precede the program at 5:30 p.m. For reservations, call the church office at 786-7300 or Tim Deik at 789-7731. Come and learn what we as Christians can do about this terrible disease.

On our calendar this week:

**Monday, January 22nd:** 7:30 p.m., Social Action Committee; 7:30 p.m., Social Committee.

**Tuesday, January 23rd:** 10:00 a.m., Searchlighters Circle; 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 4:30 p.m., Our people serve at Loaves & Fishes (meals for the homeless).

**Wednesday, January 24th:** 7:15 a.m., Mid-Week Prayer Time; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Consignment Shop Open.

**Thursday, January 25th:** 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 6:00 p.m., Take Out & Talk Out Discussion; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

Coming Up:

On Sunday, January 28th, our newly formed men's group will meet at the home of John Dello Russo for a Super Bowl pot luck get-together.

On Thursday, February 1st "Captive Free," a troupe of college-age performers, will provide a contemporary Christian ministry in song and drama. The program begins at 7:30 p.m., preceded by a pot luck supper at 6:00 p.m.

On Sunday, February 11th, Family Night will be celebrated with talent provided by our own membership. Come and enjoy the entertainment.

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## Church News - continued...



## Reflections...

submitted by  
Rev. Peter Monahan  
Pastor of the Church  
of the Apostles,  
Suffield, CT  
(860) 668-4444 or  
(413) 786-8735

## The Purpose Of God

During a recent conversation, a woman recalled how she had only gotten to know her father after she had grown up. When she was a girl, her father worked 12 to 14 hours a day. At the conclusion of each exhausting day, he would collapse into his chair after dinner and doze until bedtime.

She always sensed her father was a good man, but this girl did not truly know her father until, in her early 20's, she worked with him for a while. It was only then that the woman realized she actually liked her father, that more than being just a good man who worked hard to support her family, he was a delightful person.

Sadly, there are many people who only know their Heavenly Father from a distance, much in the same way the young girl knew her father. For some people, all they know of God is what they might glean from their observations of His handiwork, the world in which we live.

It is true we can know some things about God this way, but it is also true we will miss knowing the best part of Him if we are so limited. However, we can know the best parts of God, because He has chosen to reveal Himself to us.

For example, God's power is revealed in nature, but the nature of God's power is revealed by God in the Scripture. God is able to do anything He chooses to do. The Bible is full of stories of God acting with power and might on behalf of His people. He parted the waters of the Red Sea for the Israelites fleeing Egypt. He established, then defended, Israel. He raised the Crucified Savior from the dead. He promises to act for His people today.

We might realize that God must be a genius, because he made this great world and keeps it all

SEE PURPOSE OF GOD - Page 22...

## Annual Boar's Head Festival Again Huge Success For Trinity Church

Trinity United Methodist Church in Springfield celebrated its 13th Boar's Head Festival from January 5th through January 7th. Some area residents in this year's production were Hilary, Deborah, and Rick Golas; Samantha, Ted, and Sandra Gingras; Edith Dorang; and Michael and Colleen Ferrigno.

With added acting roles, this year's cast consisted of approximately 275 to 300 dedicated church members who contributed their services and talents to this year's Festival.

The five-performance production is a sold-out event which is attended by folks as far as New York and New Jersey. A parade of elaborate and authentic costumes, props, livestock, and special effects filled the sanctuary for this production.

The Festival originated in the Roman Empire, nearly 2,000 years ago when the Boar's head was the first dish served at great Roman feasts. Trinity's first Boar's Head Festival took place in January 1984, and it is the only church throughout the United States which has continued the traditional celebration as a live production.

The pre-show of local townspeople such as the plum pudding and minced pie ladies, the baker's wife and her children, the fruit bearer and child, the goose girls, poultry bearer, woodsmen and their young sons decorate the sanctuary for the Festival.

During this time, running wild among the townsfolk is a wild deer, the Chamber Dog and a pesky church rat. Carols are sung throughout the pre-show by the Trinity Chamber Singers to enhance the Christmas spirit and a magician entertains the audience with some amazing tricks, as well as a puppeteer who carries out a story of the Festival. Acrobats in the processional perform aerial stunts that leave the audience with

amazement.

A nun and friar blend in with the townspeople and spread a feeling of harmony amongst the audience. As one of the royal ladies' jewelry is stolen by a local boy, the town's sheriff and local residents try to have this young thief punished, but are denied his capture by a nun who shields him from the angry crowd.

This year's parade not only involved 50 singing monks, a five-piece brass fanfare and the herald announcing the entrance of the boar's head, but of royalty such as the three wise kings—Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar, Sir Christmas and King Wenceslas (with his Page and Snow Sprites).

The woodsmen (with the Yule Log and its young rider), the shepherds and their livestock, including sheep, goats, and a donkey, walk down the aisle allowing the audience, young and old, a chance to pat the animals. A falconer and his hawk, three camels, a knight riding his horse, a chimney sweep and gargoyles blend in the processional as well.

A musical entrance of the Three Kings bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh was of spectacular color and musical enchantment.

The two-hour performance is an annual event and is a delight to those who attend the Festival. A reception of homemade holiday cookies and punch were served immediately after each production while singing waits and a variety of Christmas medieval tunes played by the brass fanfare filled the reception rooms.

For information on the Boar's Head Festival '97, contact the office at 733-4759.

(Respectfully submitted by Deborah Golas, BHF Public Relations Committee and Co-Chairperson, BHF Cast Luncheon Committee.)

*For glossy copies of photos in this edition, please contact Jack Devine at his home, 789-0053. Thanks.*



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**Church News - continued...****Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational**

Sunday, January 21, 1996, is Youth Sunday at Agawam Congregational Church. The Senior High youth of the church will lead, participate, and assist Rev. Fuller in the Worship Service.

The young people assisting in the Worship Service are: Carl & Cheryl Perkins, Bob Fuller, Jeremy Brosseau, Alison Moran, Jeff McCormick, Jessica Hansen, Doug Nooney, Jason Ellsworth, Janell Erskine, Jennifer Rettew, and Brad Tilden.

Each month throughout the year, a youth group of the church participates in the Worship Service. This is part of the Christian Education program to include the young people in the worship leadership of the church.

Rev. Fuller's sermon this Sunday will be "The Message of the Cross is the Power of the God," Text 1 Corinthians 1:10-17. The Children's Message will be "Who is behind you?"

Church school continues each Sunday. Classes for grades nine through 12 and adult classes meet at 9:15 a.m., and crib room through sixth grade meet at the 10:30 session.

The Merriweds Group, an inter-church adult social group, will meet on Wednesday, January 24th, at 6:30 p.m. A potluck supper precedes the program.

A shell program presented by Don St. Jean will be this month's presentation. Bring a potluck dish to share and stay for an evening of fellowship.

The 3\*2\*1\*KONTACT group (kindergarten through third grade) will be having a lunch and activity meeting on Sunday, January 28th, at 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Making cookies and crafts for upcoming Valentine's Day will be the general theme of the day.

On Sunday, February 11, 1996, at 5:30 p.m., the Friendship Committee will be sponsoring a Family Night Supper. This is a Potluck Supper Supper; A-M will bring a main dish, and N-Z will bring salads. The dessert for the evening is "make your own sundae."

Following the supper at 6:30 p.m., John Porcino, a storyteller/folksinger, will be the entertainment with stories, songs, music, and celebration for the young and old.

A sign-up sheet will be at the Coffee Hour each Sunday, or call the Church Office at 786-7111.

**ADVERTISER NEWS!!!****PURPOSE OF GOD - from Page 21...**

going. But we would not know God is omniscient, that He possesses unlimited knowledge. For centuries the Church has addressed God with the following prayer: "Almighty God, to Whom all hearts are open and all desires are known, and from Whom no secrets are hid..."

Did it ever occur to you that nothing ever occurs to God? God knows everything about everything and everybody. We might not know that about God unless He had decided to reveal it to us. This truth about God has some very practical implications. It means that God comprehends all the events of our lives.

Although we are often surprised by the things which happen to us, God is never surprised. If we know Him, we realize we need not panic in the face of adversity. The all-powerful God already knows about it. More than that, we do not need to attempt to hide our sins from God, as though that were possible in the first place. God knows all about our true condition, all those things within us we cannot stand ourselves, yet He loves us anyway.

In nature we see God's benevolence, as storms eventually subside before all is lost forever. The

fact that the world still exists is testimony to this. The fact that the human race has survived famines and pestilences, not to mention the various expressions of man's inhumanity to man, is further testimony to God's benevolence.

In Scripture and through Christ we discover God's love. The older King James Version speaks repeatedly of God's loving kindness; newer versions translate it as unfailing love. Either way, it means the same thing: a love we can count on.

There is much more about God we can partially glean from observing His handiwork in creation, but there is one thing of God we would probably never know apart from His own deliberate revelation. That would be the purpose of God, which is the salvation of all people.

Jesus Himself once said, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." All of history, whether of mankind in general or each individual, is headed in a certain direction. Life is not circular, nor is it meaningless.

The purpose of God for all of us, the purpose of God for each of us, is to know God and to realize in our own experience how delightful He truly is.

**Ag. Methodist Church Has Roast Pork Supper**

Agawam Methodist Church will hold a Roast Pork Supper on Saturday, January 20th at 5:30 p.m.

Cost for seniors citizens is \$5; all others, \$6. The menu will consist of salad, roast pork, potato, vegetable, applesauce, and dessert.

For reservations, call the church office at 786-4174 or Dana Henry at 789-0684.

In charge of the kitchen will be Carl Bernier, Paul Broz, and Dana Henry. Paula Bernier will have charge of the dining room.

**Hour Of Prayer, Song At Dominican Nuns**

The monthly Hour of Prayer and Song for the families of the world will be held at the Dominican Nuns' Monastery Chapel on Sunday, January 21st, at 4:00 p.m.

The public is cordially invited to attend. The service will include the singing of Evening Prayer and the recitation of the rosary, sermon, and Benediction.

**Best local news...****Wise Men Still Seek Him**

A group of men from St. David's attended PROMISE KEEPERS in Washington D.C. and joined 56,000 men in worship, praise and in dedicating their lives to Jesus Christ.

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## Spotlight On Business

### “American Classics” Opens At Former Amanda’s Restaurant

by Peggy Shoemaker  
Advertiser News Feature Writer

Feeding Hills resident David MacWilliams opened his **American Classics** restaurant to the public for breakfast and lunch on December 27th at 740 Springfield Street, site of the former Amanda’s Restaurant.

The name **American Classics** refers to both the menu and the decor—traditional and time-tested. MacWilliams believe there is a resurgence of interest in classic American foods after some years of public infatuation with ethnic and fast foods.

The restaurant’s complete line of breakfasts includes such choices as eggs Benedict, kielbasa and eggs, steak and eggs, and French toast and pancakes, as well as a selection of omelettes and side orders that include oatmeal, raisin toast, English muffins, and bagels.

The freshest coffee is a must with MacWilliams, and he achieves this by grinding the coffee beans just before use and using filtered water. Of course, it is a bottomless cup for 75¢. In addition to soda, milk, and herbal teas, beverages include hot chocolate for 85¢.

Each day there is a special such as a beverage with Texas Dogs (two short hot dogs on rolls with a spiced sauce). Traditional sandwiches for lunch include Western, ham and cheese, bacon, lettuce and tomato, steak and cheese, and egg salad. Condiments such as onion, tomato, and lettuce can be added.

For the hearty appetite, there are choices of burgers (including a Swiss patty melt), club sandwiches, and a selection of grinders. For lighter appetites, there is a half-sandwich with soup or salad. One section of the menu is called the “Dog House,” offering arrangements of hot dogs.

Implementing the theme **American Classics**, wainscoting was used lavishly in the refurbishing. Lace curtains and flowered wallpaper were retained. Two rows of booths were taken out to make room for counter space with seating space larger than the usual, MacWilliams said, to facilitate serving and reading the newspaper.

Tile was added to the kitchen and part of the dining area. The roof was repaired and the chimney was relined. There is memorabilia from the Coca-Cola Company and other classic American themes to use as decor.

**American Classics** is a “no smoking” restaurant. MacWilliams said he researched the subject and decided “no smoking” is the trend of the future. He decided on this course even though he said he lost some business because of it.

An “Interest” Of The Entire Family...

The restaurant is an interest of the entire MacWilliams family: David, his wife, Debbie, their son,



**THE MACWILLIAMS FAMILY OF FEEDING HILLS** has opened “**American Classics**” Restaurant at the site of the former Amanda’s Restaurant at 740 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. IN PHOTO ABOVE, owner Dave MacWilliams and his son, Dan, are pictured in the newly remodeled kitchen. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



SEE CLASSICS - Page 25...

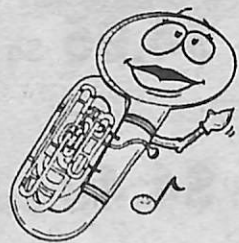
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PAM SAVIOLI

## Pam Savioli Named To "Who's Who" In Real Estate

A resident of Feeding Hills, Pam Savioli has been specializing in residential real estate since 1986 and works in the Feeding Hills office of Landry, Lyons & Whyte/Better Homes & Garden.

Pam was accepted for inclusion in the 1996 "Who's Who in Residential Real Estate in North America," a directory of the top real estate sales executives in the United States and Canada. While there are more than 2.5 million real estate licensees in the two countries, less than 3,000 were accepted for 1996.

"Pam has been recognized as an outstanding sales executive with a commitment to high quality service by many peers as well as by customers," said Jeanne Garvin, Manager. "The listing of 'Who's Who' only signifies nationally and globally what we have always known in Agawam and Feeding Hills."

Reflecting the growing interest and usage of the Internet, "Who's Who in Residential Real Estate" will be featured on its own World Wide Web Site as well as be located on the Microsoft Network under REAL Direct.

"Recognizing top sales professionals through the Internet and Microsoft Network helps consumers make choices about the level of experience they seek when purchasing or selling a home and gives them an easy way to find the information," said Pam. "This is the new way to reach the market with this kind of useful information."

If you are interested in buying or selling a home, please call Pam Savioli at (413) 786-0663.



THE NEWLY REMODELED American Classics Restaurant opened for business on December 27th under totally new ownership at 740 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. Advertiser

News photo by Jack Devine.

### CLASSICS - from Page 24...

Dan, and their daughter, Heidi. Although a close-knit family, there are also other career interests. Dan is a full-time cook at the local restaurant and also works a four-hour shift in food preparation at Baystate Medical Center. He formerly worked at Chi-Chi's in West Springfield.

Debbie is a registered nurse working 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Mount Sinai Hospital in Hartford. She plans the "daily specials" at the restaurants. Brought up on a farm in the midwest, she often uses family recipes and does the cooking and baking for the specials herself.

Mr. and Mrs. MacWilliams celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in October and reside on Cedar Knoll Drive in Feeding Hills. Dan and Heidi graduated from Agawam High School, and Heidi graduated from the School of Business Management at the University of Massachusetts in May. She is employed by Electronic Data Systems in Boston.

The elder MacWilliams attended Mount Greylock Regional High School, Springfield Community College, and Northeastern University.

Athletics are a prime interest of the family, and members spend their spare time at their cottage at Green Water Pond, Beckett (boating and water-skiing).

In the winter they snowboard, a sport that MacWilliams feels will soon outrank skiing in popularity. He has also taught karate and enjoys scuba diving.

He has been in business in Agawam since 1977, owning a television sales business that was liquidated in 1985, and a sporting goods store that was liquidated in 1989. Both were just next door to his restaurant on Springfield Street. He worked with the Lewis and Arnold Real Estate Agency for four years. It is now called Landmark Agency, and he retains an interest in real estate.

But this is his first venture into restaurant ownership, although he said he worked in several restaurants in his teen years. MacWilliams is an energetic, enthusiastic person who loves people and chatting with customers. The motto of his American Classics, he said, is courtesy, consistency, and cleanliness. He wants his customers to know that they are appreciated.

## "Top Sales" Agents Named By Molta

Gary Burnett of Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates was recently named the Top Sales Associate in New England for listings sold for the third quarter, 1995, and Cate Shea was named among the Top Ten Sales Associates in the state of Massachusetts for buyer controlled sales for the third quarter, 1995, for Coldwell Banker Residential Affiliates, Inc.

"Coldwell Banker's strength lies in top producing sales associates like Gary Burnett and Cate Shea who go the extra mile by providing outstan-

ding customer service and getting excellent results," said Robert Romanowski, Regional Director of Coldwell Banker Northeast Region. "It is an honor to have them as part of our organization."

Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates is located at 342 Springfield Street, Agawam. For local real estate information, call 789-9890. Coldwell Banker has over 2,400 residential offices and more than 57,000 sales associates in North America.

## Agent Of Month



CHET KAPERREK, manager of George & Green Real Estate in Agawam, named Vinnie Rettura as the sales "Agent of the Month." Vinnie is holding his baby girl, Alexandria.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

THE LEGEND HAS ARRIVED!

1st Year Anniversary

**GOLD'S GYM.**

HUGE  
22,000  
SQ. FT.



"A License of Gold's Gym"  
**West Springfield, Mass.**  
(across from the Big E)



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**Family & Group Rates Available**  
15% Off Senior Discount



Fitness & Nutrition Analysis

Get Tan Now!

**WOLFF TURBO TANNING**

**Call (413) 746-2677**

**GOLD'S GYM**

1452 Memorial Ave.  
(Across from the BIG E)  
West Springfield, MA



# For Your Health



## Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell  
Registered Dietician

### A Spice To Treat Arthritis

In the past, Mary Shore would greet the morning still tired. She wouldn't sleep well because of her arthritis.

Mary complained, "I can't sleep and I'm up all night going crazy from pain." The doctors thought she would even need a new hip. But Mary found relief in just five days with a simple spice—ginger.

Ginger is an anti-inflammatory. All patients in a study at the University of Denmark had less pain and swelling and more mobility when they took ginger. Most found relief in one to three months.

The recommended dose is just one teaspoon of fresh ginger or 1/3 teaspoon of ground ginger three times a day. The ginger can become part of your recipes. It works well with meats and vegetables.

If you take it alone, dissolve it in liquid or take it with food so it doesn't burn your mouth. For a little more money, buy ginger capsules.

The little spice that Mary used to use just in cooking has changed her life. Mary says, "I take the ginger and now I don't need a new hip. It's really great for me anyway."

**Nancy Dell, MS, is the Media Representative for the Western Mass. Dietetic Association and a Registered Dietitian with a private practice in Feeding Hills. She can be reached at (413) 786-2957.**

### Yoga Classes Back At Fitness First

Fitness First has brought back the popular relaxing exercise class, Yoga! The classes began this week (January 15th) with Debbie Parelius.

The classes will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. The first week was free; thereafter, the fee for this class is \$32 for members and \$64 for non-members for eight weeks.

Debbie Parelius comes to Fitness First highly recommended as a Kripalu Yoga instructor and a member of the Kripalu Yoga Teachers Association. She brings with her 10 years of experience and is praised for bringing something special and different to class each time!

To sign up for classes, call Fitness First at 786-1460 or stop by the club on North Westfield Street.

## "Laughing More" Is Special Seminar Slated For Feb. 6th

The seminars "LAUGH MORE, LIVE LONGER" and "WHAT TO DO WHEN LIFE THROWS YOU CURVEBALLS! - HANDLING ADVERSITY, CHANGE AND STRESS" will be held on Tuesday, February 6th, at the Sheraton Hotel at Monarch Place in downtown Springfield.

The "LAUGHTER" seminar runs from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. and will be followed by the second program from 7:45 to 9:15 p.m. The presenter for both programs will be Dr. Steve Sobel, founder and director of The New England Institute for Stress Management of West Springfield.

Cost is \$19 per person for each program, or \$35 for any person attending both seminars. Pre-registration is needed by calling (413) 785-1259.

## Self-Esteem Seminar For Children To Take Place In West Spfld.

A seminar that is specifically designed for children ages nine to 14 will be presented by Dr. Steve Sobel of The New England Institute For Stress Management of West Springfield.

The seminar is titled "Creating High Self-Esteem and Empowerment" and will emphasize making sound decisions, promoting an ability to handle rejection, forming positive peer relationships, and succeeding within the school setting.

The program will be held on Saturday, February 3rd, from 10:00 to 11:15 a.m. at 425 Union Street in West Springfield. The cost is \$12 per child, and seating is limited.

Call 785-1259 for full details and a registration form.

Steve Sobel is a nationally-recognized speaker, a former teacher, principal, and special needs director.

## Cancer Support Group Meets At Providence Hospital In Holyoke

Persons with cancer will find information and fellowship at the weekly meetings of Providence Hospital's Cancer Support Group.

The free sessions are conducted on Mondays, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the hospital auditorium, and are facilitated by Providence Hospital chaplain Sr. Madeline Joy, S.P.

For more information, call (413) 539-2950.

## Managing YOUR STRESS

by Dr. Stephen Sobel  
M.S., S.M.C.



### For Every "No" You Get, It Brings You One Step Closer To A "Yes"

Dear Dr. Sobel: I thank you for the article you sent me recently titled "Focus On The Larger Vision." It helped me greatly, as I am currently running into obstacles as I try and get my book published. Your example in the article really pointed out what it takes to excel and keep bouncing back when you want an outcome bad enough. Thanks and keep the columns coming!

Appreciatively, W.T., Feeding Hills

**Comment:** Glad you benefited from the article! When you want more out of different aspects of your life, you will absolutely encounter obstacles to your success and fulfillment. Some may argue that it is risky to move ahead in life and try new things or initiate new habits, BUT I believe in most cases it may just be riskier to stay where you are!

When you overcome rejection and are able to deal with the curveballs life will throw at you (even though you never asked for them), you build FAITH in your ability to set your sights/vision on other worthwhile pursuits. You become more of a positive person.

And remember, in your pursuit of getting what you need out of your life—socially, financially, romantically, etc.—for every "no" you get, it brings you one step closer to a "yes"! Also remember that life is only temporary, so make the most of it while you can!

**AAN Readers—Mark Your Calendars!**

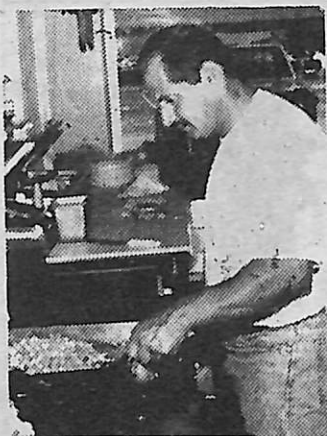
Upcoming seminars with Steve Sobel. Call 785-1259 for all info.

On February 6, 1996, two evening seminars will be offered at the Sheraton Hotel in Springfield. One is "Laugh More, Live Longer," and the other is "When Life Throws You Curveballs—Handling Adversity, Change, and Stress."

On February 3, 1996, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., a seminar for youngsters titled "Creating High Self-Esteem and Empowerment For Children Ages 9 To 14."

Write to Dr. Sobel at 425 Union Street, West Springfield, MA 01089 if you want a copy of the article "Focus On The Larger Vision." Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope, please. Limited amount available.

Best local news...



**Richy B's  
Breakfast—Deli**  
789-9369

**Now Open  
At Our**

**New Location**

**1409 Suffield Street  
Twin Silos Complex**

- Same Great Food
- Same Great Service
- More Room Inside To Eat
- More Space To Park

**We Now Deliver Lunch—  
Orders Must Be In By 11:00 A.M.**

Monday—Saturday 5 A.M. - 2:30 P.M.  
Sunday 6:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

## Winter Special

(Gift Certificates Available)

**A Clean Dog Is A  
Happy Dog**

23 Years  
In Business



**Off New Customers With This Ad**

**Elaine's Pet Salon - Featuring All-Breed Dog Grooming**

Using the most up-to-date tools available and our promise to instruct you on the most modern and up-to-date grooming tools and flea products for the proper maintenance of your dog.

**702 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills  
(Across From Agawam Police Station)**

Call Mon. - Sat. For Appointment

**786-6242**

**Walk-Ins Welcome 7:30 - 11:00 (Except Saturdays)**

**Pet Sitting In Your HOME**



**For Your Health - continued...****Your Back And Your Health**

by Dr. Joseph  
S. Schlaffer  
Schlaffer  
Chiropractic Offices  
192 Shoemaker Lane  
Agawam

**Shoveling Snow Can Injure An Already Weak Low Back**

Many patients have called our office recently with back complaints related to the series of snowstorms and the strain of snow removal.

The **Schlaffer Chiropractic Office** advises that you exercise caution! Shoveling snow is one of the toughest activities that you can do to your low back. It is certainly one activity that will further injure your already weak low back.

If you are not in very good physical condition, I would advise you to give up shoveling altogether. Find a neighborhood kid who is ambitious enough to help you. Have your driveway plowed by a professional. If that is not possible and you insist on shoveling your own driveway, then condition your back for several months ahead of the snow season.

Each year we hear about the number of heart at-

tacks and strokes that occur as the result of overexertion. The tragedy of the fatal or near-fatal result of an apparently healthy person from snow shoveling is rather common. Other hazards involved are even more common.

The same snow which causes heart stress also causes dangerous stress to the discs in the spine of the shoveler. When you consider that a shovel of snow weighs from five to seven pounds, you realize the tremendous accumulative weight one has to lift to clear an area. The average driveway or walk will hold hundreds of pounds of snow.

I recommend the following rules to guard against the snow shoveler syndrome:

1. Dress warmly, but don't bundle up so as to make it difficult and awkward for you to move naturally.
2. Use a lightweight pusher-type shovel. Spray it with Teflon so snow will not cling to it.
3. Try not to lift the snow if possible. Push it into a pile, thereby relieving spinal compression.
4. Avoid sudden twists of the torso. Move the entire body.
5. Keep your back straight when you lift. Use your legs rather than your back.
6. Work slowly.
7. If you feel tired or short of breath, stop and take a rest. Stand up straight and breathe deeply.
8. If you feel a twinge of back pain, stop completely and go inside the house, sit down, and rest. If pain persists, see a doctor of chiropractic immediately. With snow, it's wiser to use the head instead of the back.

My office helps patients with spine-related problems. Those who injured their backs should seek treatment. Call 789-1369 or 789-1073 for help.

**Headache Sufferers Can Receive Help At Mercy Hospital**

Attention headache sufferers! On Saturday, January 27th, beginning at 10:00 a.m., a free headache workshop and health fair will take place at the Joseph J. Deliso, Sr. Conference Center at Mercy Hospital, 299 Carew Street, Springfield.

Hosted by the East Longmeadow Health and Wellness Group, this event will focus on the causes and cures for headaches, different types of headaches, and medical treatments. Among the topics to be addressed will be natural alternative treatments, home treatments, the true facts about headaches, pain management approaches for the 90's, exercise and health, and things that you can do at home to help.

Although the workshop and fair are free, pre-registration is required by calling (413) 525-0225. Refreshments will be served, and free testing will be offered following the lecture series.

Seating is limited.

**Noble Hospital Has More People Giving Blood Recently**

In response to the national appeal for blood donations, Noble Hospital has seen increased activity in the number of people who have donated blood this week.

"Several donors who have been inactive have come in this week," said Donna Perreault, MT, Blood Bank Supervisor. "We are grateful to them and to the others who have donated blood."

Perreault noted that while all of the blood donated at Noble Hospital is used locally, the increase in donations allows other resources of donated blood to be distributed to areas in need.

The Noble Hospital Blood Bank is open for donations on Wednesdays from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Appointments are recommended. For more information, call the Blood Bank at 568-2811, ext. 5574.

**Check our classified**

**Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon. However, we appreciate any "early birds" who are able to bring in their articles, ads, etc., on Mondays. Thank you!**

**Service Is Our Business!**

Service Department  
Open Monday to Thursday  
7:00 A.M. - Midnight  
7:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. On Friday

MOONLIGHT  
MADNESS



**All Ford Cars, Vans, Trucks,  
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**Chiropractic Care by**

**Dr. Tami Nelson**  
Chiropractic  
Physician

Hampden County  
Chiropractic  
850 Springfield St.  
Feeding Hills  
786-4820

**The Chiropractic Emblem**

As most other facets of the medical community, chiropractic has its own emblem designed to communicate a message. This emblem was designed by artist M. McDonald of Columbus, Ohio in 1934.

According to the October 1934 issue of the *National Chiropractic Journal*, the emblem signifies the idea of "physical humanity rising to sublime perfection in the white light of chiropractic truth and knowledge."



The purpose was to represent the spirit of chiropractic, leading public consciousness upward toward the truths of health and the attainment of higher physical standards. The emblem resembles the archangel Raphael, interpreted to mean "God has healed."

The emblem was soon adopted by both the National Chiropractic Association and the International Chiropractic Congress. It was publicized by the *Chiropractic Journal* in the United States, Canada, and other foreign countries. Doctors were encouraged to use it in their advertisements and printed matter.

The advantage to using this newly designed, original emblem was that it awakened a prompt recognition of service and feeling of respect for the profession. Also, the words "chiropractic" and "health" would come to be uniformly recognized and accepted as synonymous by people throughout the world.

This emblem, though not the only symbol of chiropractic today, is still highly respected.

**Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. She is available to answer questions on Monday and Wednesday from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. at 786-4820.**



"Give me a list of your favorite foods, and I'll show you how you can eat them and lose weight, too!"

**Nancy Dell's Nutrition Counseling**  
850 Springfield St, Feeding Hills

**Call for an appointment at 786-2957.**





## Arts

### Westfield Theatre Reschedules Night Of One-Act Plays

Due to the inclement weather last Friday, Jan. 12th, the Westfield Theatre Group's Evening of One-Acts has been rescheduled to this Friday, January 19, 1996 at 7:30 p.m.

The theatre group is a department of the Westfield Woman's Club, and this is the fourth Annual Evening of One-Acts that they have done.

This is a family oriented evening, starting off with a performance of "Seven Wives for Dracula," which features a cast of middle and high school students, including Bill Wood, Jill Mihlek, Michael Buzzee, Jessica Palmer, Jannelle Beltrandi, and Mary Bonavita.

A second one-act is actually a compilation of short skits, directed by Rob Settembro of Agawam. He is currently a UMASS student, and his show involves a variety of members.

The final show of the evening, "The Villiam of Rose Gulch Hollow," is directed by Kathi Palmer and Mary Ann Scognamiglio. It is a melodrama of the best kind, complete with the dastardly villain, played by Bob Martin, the beautiful young maiden, portrayed by Siobhan Hebda, and the hero, Sylvester Truemuscle, played by Mike Tesini of Holyoke. The cast is rounded out by Kathryn Leary, Shelley Haber, Diana Correia, and Darren Tapley, all of Westfield.

Ticket prices are \$5 for adults, and \$3 for students and seniors. Reservations may be made by calling 572-6838. Come out and enjoy an evening of good family fun.

### "Wind In The Willows" Drama Camp Has Openings

STAGE announces that it has a few openings left for its next afterschool theatre camp, "The Wind In The Willows." The camp, which is open to young people from eight to 15 years-old, runs Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at The Red Door Theatre, 152 S. Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

The play, adapted by Lyle Pearsons, is based on the popular children's novel by Kenneth Grahame. It explores the delightful world of Mr. Toad of Toad Hill as he hops from one misadventure to another.

There to bail him out are the beloved characters of Badger, Ratty, Mole, and Otter, who find themselves embroiled in a bitter feud with the nasty weasels of Wild Wood.

The fun begins January 30th and 31st and runs until the show dates March 15th and 16th at 7:30 p.m., and March 16th and 17th at 2:00 p.m.

Registration information is available for those interested by calling The Red Door Answering Service, (413) 789-2026. The camp fee is \$150, and the deadline for application is Saturday, January 27th.

### Agawam Historical Association To Meet Tuesday, January 23rd

The Agawam Historical Association will meet on Tuesday, January 23rd, at 7:30 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House at 665 Main Street, Agawam.

The topic will be "Railroads of the Northeast" (including the railroad that was in Feeding Hills). The speakers will be Mr. Karl Stieg, an authority on railroads, and Mr. Craig Della Penna, author of the book *Greatest Rail Trails of the Northeast*.

A time of refreshment and fellowship will follow the main meeting. The public is cordially invited to this meeting.

**NEW SUBSCRIBERS are always welcome. Call us at 786-7747 or 786-8137. We open weekdays at 6:30 a.m. Call us today!!!**

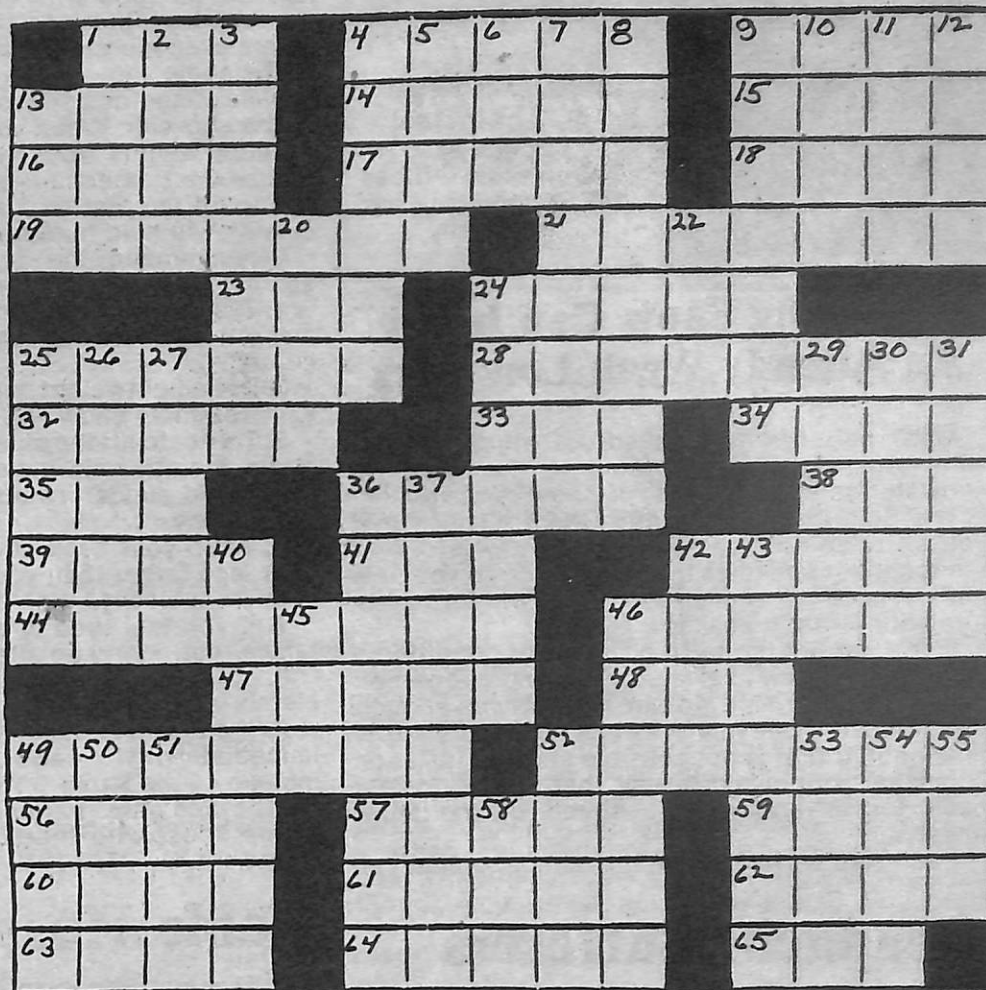
## MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni

### ACROSS

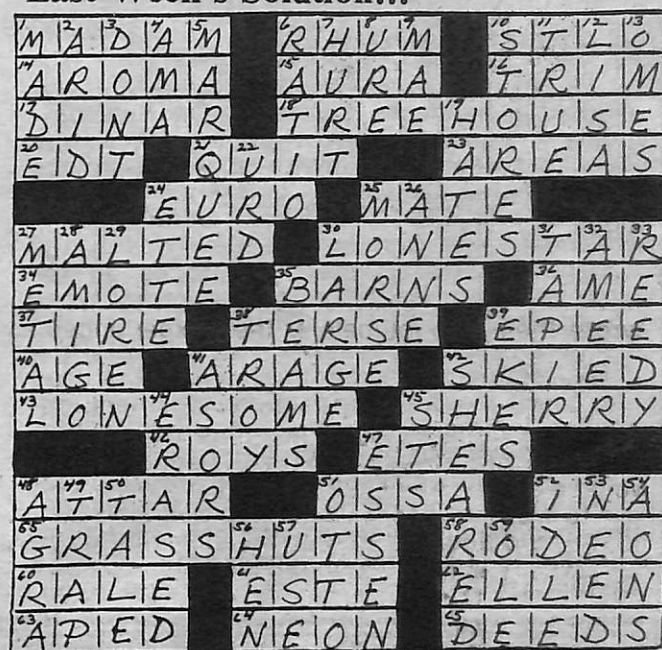
- 1 "— Alamos, N.M."
- 4 French Impressionist
- 9 Norma and others
- 13 Mercantile site
- 14 Maine college town
- 15 Ms. Maxwell
- 16 General Bradley
- 17 Ronald Colman played this prisoner
- 18 Orange seeds
- 19 Start of a famous palindrome
- 21 Fish-eating hawks
- 23 Swiss river
- 24 Ava's Shaw
- 25 Allow
- 28 "— the spider to the fly"
- 32 Pull over at sea
- 33 The sea to Debussy
- 34 Rane's wear
- 35 Hilo garland
- 36 Things to feed?
- 38 Race the engine
- 39 Gaelic
- 41 "— Maria"
- 42 Ma Bell's instrument
- 44 Church toppers
- 46 Mouse
- 47 Emulates Leo the lion
- 48 Sesame
- 49 Splits
- 52 "High —" (gamblers)
- 56 Sheltered side
- 57 "— the bag" (sure thing)
- 59 Musical group
- 60 Mess up, as hair
- 61 Poke fun at
- 62 "You're my one and —"

### DOWN

- 1 Mary's ward
- 2 Type of test
- 3 Waterways
- 4 Salleri's mortal enemy
- 5 Mine contents
- 6 No in Lyons
- 7 Approved
- 8 Kitchen appliances
- 9 Held down
- 10 "It's a sin to tell —"
- 11 Sight
- 12 Lip
- 13 Extinct bird
- 20 Bide one's time
- 22 Soupy Sales facetful
- 24 Without specific action
- 25 Turns ashen
- 26 Turn inside out
- 27 Poker play
- 29 Dueler Burr
- 30 Actress Dunne
- 31 Loon for one
- 36 A Jane of the west
- 37 Go too far
- 40 Most outre
- 42 Alice Faye's Harris
- 43 Summit
- 45 Positive (abbr.)
- 46 Punishes in a biblical way
- 49 Maize
- 50 Need for a solution
- 51 Pianist Myra
- 52 Go up
- 53 Sea eagle
- 54 Stir up
- 55 Type of sauce
- 58 Babylonian 3,600



### Last Week's Solution...



Beth Lacienski  
Miss Agawam 1994



Hollywood Productions



Miss Agawam Pageant

### 9th Annual Miss Agawam Beauty Pageant & Talent Competition

Lori Andruss Boyle, Director

## Miss Agawam 1996

April 1st  
Chez Josef

Shoemaker Lane, Agawam

Divisions For Beauty And Talent

- |             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Tiny Miss   | 4-6 years old   |
| Junior Miss | 7-9 years old   |
| Pre-Teen    | 10-12 years old |
| Teen        | 13-15 years old |
| Miss        | 16-22 years old |

Contestants Must Be Agawam Residents

**Call 732-3411**

For Information And Entry Form





## Education

### 4th Graders At Clark School Learn About Immigrants

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

It's not just history—it's her story, their story, and our story.

Fourth graders in Franceska Solon's class at Clark Elementary School found the history of their country is best told through the stories and experiences of the immigrants seeking a new life in a new world.

Working on her master's degree from Westfield State College, Eleanor Connelly brought the story of our immigrant nation alive for her students as they studied U.S. history by following the effects of immigration dating back to the colonial period through modern times.

"It's been very worthwhile for the children," Mrs. Solon said. "They have learned about the beginnings of American history and the different groups who make our country strong, who make us a melting pot."

Incorporating language arts, math, music, science, and art in the children's study of immigration, Mrs. Connelly surrounded the class with opportunities to learn more about the effects of immigration on U.S. history and the contributions made by immigrants, both individually and as ethnic groups.

Displays of the children's work included a bulletin board depicting a time line of immigration throughout U.S. history in photos and posters. For their immigrant hope quilt, each child produced a quilt square showing what they wanted to do or become if they had been immigrants.

#### Unemployment & Frustration Fuel Immigrants

By studying the reasons for the different waves of immigration, the children learned that unemployment and frustration with the lack of opportunity caused by the Industrial Revolution along with religious persecution led many immigrants to America.

Taking on the persona of the title character from the novel, "Letters From Rifka," the children wrote their own journals of their experiences as immigrants in letters sent back to their "cousins" in Russia.

In researching the first experiences of the immigrants in their adopted homeland, the children learned what it was like to take a perilous ocean voyage and arrive at Ellis Island in New York Harbor to wait in lines for the medical examinations that would decide if they could enter the country.

"I wanted the children to know all the personal sacrifices the immigrants made with the hope of coming here," Mrs. Connelly said. "I hope they learned respect for where everyone came from and that we're living and benefitting from what those people laid down years ago. It's an age old concept."

On their last day together, Mrs. Connelly and the children shared a sort of immigrant smorgasbord of ethnic foods reflecting each student's family heritage. There were foods from all over the world to demonstrate visually (and deliciously) the richness and variety of the children's cultural origins: cupcakes ("Because Canada has the same foods we do."), Italian cookies, German brownies, Irish potatoes, knockwurst and saurkraut, tortillas, fried rice, and ricotta pie.

Dropping in to share in the feast with her son, Jesse, teaching assistant Debra Clauson said the classroom projects and activities helped the children feel they were more involved in what they were learning.

"All of this helps them learn more and think more about what they're doing," Mrs. Clauson said.

### Gina Milillo Attains Dean's Honor List At Quinnipiac College

Gina Milillo of 457 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, a Spanish major at Quinnipiac College, was among the full-time undergraduate students who have been named to the college's Dean's Honor List for the 1995 fall semester.

Quinnipiac, located in Hamden, Connecticut, is a coeducational and nonsectarian institution that offers more than 47 undergraduate and graduate-level degree programs leading to careers in health sciences, business, liberal arts, education, communications, and law.

The college currently enrolls more than 5,000 undergraduate, graduate, and law students.



THE FOURTH GRADE CLASS of Franceska Solon at James Clark School learned about US history through stories and experiences of immigrants seeking a new life in the USA. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

### Casper To Be Shown At Agawam Library On Saturday, January 20th; Families Invited

Agawam and Feeding Hills families are invited to watch the full-length feature film "Casper," (rated PG) on the big screen.

Come to the Agawam Public Library on Saturday, January 20th, at 2:00 p.m. with sit-upons and we'll supply the snack. The whole family will enjoy this friendly ghost story.

Why wait for your birthday when we can have a

party right now? Agawam and Feeding Hills families with kids aged three and up are invited to choose either Monday, January 22nd or Tuesday, January 23rd, from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. to share stories, a craft, and a birthday related snack.

To register for either program, call 789-1550 or stop by at 750 Cooper Street.

Just a reminder—If school is cancelled due to bad weather, library programs are as well.

## Your First Choice

### For College Courses at Agawam High School

Taking courses at Springfield Technical Community College is not limited to the Armory Square campus. Several of STCC's most popular courses will be offered on Tuesday evenings for your convenience at Agawam High School.

#### Classes

Microcomputer Applications for DOS (3 credits)  
Labor Relations (3 credits)  
Introduction to Philosophy (3 credits)  
Introductory Nutrition (3 credits)  
Child Growth and Development (3 credits)

Classes are held from 6:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.

#### Semester Schedule

Classes begin on Tuesday, January 23, and end on May 7. Textbooks are available for purchase by cash or check at the first class meeting.

#### Registration

You may register at Agawam High School from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 18, and Tuesday, January 23.

You may register now at the main campus, in person, by phone, or by fax; call 781-1315. Hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday 8:00 to 4:00 and Saturday 9:00 to noon. Visa, MasterCard, and Discover are accepted.

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Over 150 different credit courses are offered in STCC's Evening and Weekend College Program, including a 4:00 p.m. session and an expanded session of Saturday morning classes. Also offered are several certificate programs.

For further information, please call the STCC Division of Continuing Education at 781-1315.



## SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE





## AHS Guidance...

by Judith Cohen  
Acting Director  
AHS Guidance Dept.

### Computers In Education

This is the computer age, and we need to fully recognize this in order to bring Agawam's computers up to the 1990's, keeping a clear eye on the 21st century. Opinions are voiced that many Agawam students are not being adequately prepared for life outside of high school, yet what is being done about this?

Unfortunately, at Agawam schools, the computers are antiquated, precluding students from using the latest software. Russell Ramah, the computer coordinator for the entire system, acknowledges that we are "way behind," but he is unable to rectify this dismal situation because of lack of funds.

Each year proposals to buy computers are presented; each year they are shot down because of budgetary constraints. How sad! A business teacher at the high school states, "Students don't have the competitive edge because we are not able to use up-to-date software."

There are grants available which can be used to buy computer equipment for schools, but a plan must be developed and approved by the School Committee in order for our system to be eligible for a grant.

Not only are students directly suffering because they are learning on antiquated machines which are not adequately preparing them for the future, but also they are suffering indirectly because much of the school is not on-line. By being on line, the Guidance Department would be able to institute different programs to enable students to research colleges, apply to colleges, access material on financial aid, and gain essential information on career opportunities.

Counselors need computers to facilitate their handling of students' recommendations and other pertinent data. Guidance does not even have a fax machine (incredulous to other school systems and colleges that wish to send materials to us). Instead, materials must be sent to the Junior High and then forwarded to us, causing time to be wasted.

Al Baggetta, a high school English teacher and Computer teacher at the Night School, feels that a state-of-the-art computer should be available to every teacher in his/her classroom to help with classroom management. By using computers, teachers would have more time to teach class.

Another teacher commented that private tutorials would be available via computer which would enable the youngster who was out sick or who needs extra assistance to access the computer for help.

Mr. Baggetta also suggested that computers could be used for satellite programming. Mrs. McCormack, a high school teacher, explained that there would be a wealth of knowledge that could be downloaded and used in the classrooms if teachers had access to the Internet.

Administrators would have less paperwork and more time to deal on an individual basis with students if they were able to utilize computers rather than having to rely on papers, a myriad of files, etc. With computer organization would come added efficiency.

Both Mr. Baggetta and Mrs. Mazza feel that proper maintenance and supervision in a computer lab is important so that the computers can be repaired and upgraded as needed. It is essential to have a good computer system but just as essential to make sure it is run efficiently. Mr. Ramah does an excellent job trying to keep everything running smoothly, but he needs additional help. It's a big job!

As acting Guidance Director, I attend a monthly meeting with other directors in the area. I must tell you that it has been an eye-opener!

Agawam is definitely behind in some essential areas. With computers, these deficits could be greatly improved. I suggest to you parents, School Committee members, and others naturally interested in making our school system the best it can be to go visit other schools, to see how their computers help facilitate the system's administrators, counselors, and students, and then to realize that we need to get busy here.

We owe it to our students! Let's not keep complaining that we would like to see education improved; let's realize that we need funding to make it possible!

#### GUIDANCE BULLETIN

**COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES** - Congratulations! David Murphy, Salem State; Gina Cincotta, Hofstra; Kristin Tierney, Lyndon State; Stephanie Biza, Lyndon State; Sabrina Ferrari, North Adams State; Melissa Murphy, Framingham State; Danielle LaBarre, University of Maine; Scott Litchfield, Florida Inst. of Technology; Karla Zambelli, University of Rhode Island and Fram-

ingham State; Stacy Avery, Framingham State; Matthew Radwanski, University of Hartford; Jennie Van Gys, Becker, SUNY/Morrisville, SUNY/AI-fred, SUNY/Delphi; Elana Campurclani, Mitchell College; Erin Ward, Mitchell College; Jeff Aliberti, Florida Southern.

**Seniors** - Please inform your counselor when you receive a college acceptance.

**SCHOLARSHIPS** - See your counselor for more information.

**Boston University Alumni Club of Western Mass. Scholarship** - This organization presents one or more scholarships each year to high school seniors from Western Mass. who have been accepted at B.U. Recipients are selected on the basis of academic and social achievement as well as financial need. Deadline: May 10, 1996.

**Rebekah Assembly of Mass. Memorial Scholarship** - This \$300 scholarship is offered to a qualified high school senior who plans to further his/her education by attending a two- or four-year college. A winner is selected on the basis of his/her scholastic record and financial need. Deadline: March 10, 1996.

**Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale** offers scholarships to talented students who attend this school.

**Mensa Education Scholarship** - Judgement will be made on the basis of a creative essay of 500 words which describes the applicant's career, vocational, and/or academic goals. It is not necessary to be a member of Mensa. Deadline: January 31, 1996.

**Order Sons of Italy of Massachusetts Scholarship** - Twenty \$500 scholarships will be awarded including one to a qualified art student, one to a qualified music student, both of whom intend to pursue their education at an accredited school of art or music. One award will be granted to a qualified student planning to pursue his/her education at an accredited vocational/technical school. Four awards will be granted to qualified students regardless of race, creed, or national origin who are Massachusetts residents. The remainder of the scholarships will be awarded to members of the Junior Division of the Grand Lodge, Sons of Italy or children of members of the senior class of any secondary school and will be awarded on the basis of scholastic ability, character, and extracurricular activities. Deadline: March 1, 1996.

**OPEN HOUSES** - See your counselor for more information.

**Elms College** - Saturday, February 3rd, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Financial Aid Night** - Agawam High School, January 18th, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

## Agawam Junior High PTO To Meet Monday, January 22nd; Volunteers Sought

There will be a meeting of the Agawam Junior High School PTO on Monday, January 22nd, at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. All parents are welcome to attend.

We are STILL LOOKING for someone to run the eighth-grade graduation dance. If no

chairperson(s) is/are found, the dance will not take place.

If you can't attend this meeting and are interested in further information, please call Donna Shibley at 786-3888.

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## Jr. Women Donate \$650 To AHS Library



THE AGAWAM JUNIOR WOMEN'S CLUB has donated \$650 to the Agawam High School Library for the purchase of books that are needed to meet accreditation standards. From left - Melissa Murphy and Melissa Troie, students; Charlotte Shimel, librarian; Paul Cavallo, acting deputy principal; Aileen Semanie, AHS secretary and Jr. Women's Club member; Bernadette Conte, dean of students; Amy Wisniewski and Kelly Stoddard, students. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



CAROLINA FLOREZ

## Carolina Florez Has Returned To The Ag. School System

Where were you from September 1990 to June 1992? Chances are, if you were at the Agawam Junior High School, you knew Carolina Florez. She was here with her parents and her two sisters, Juliana and Laura, from Bogota, Colombia, South America. Well ... SHE'S BACK!!!

Carolina has returned for six months (now hailing from Bucaramanga, Colombia). She will be entering the senior class at Agawam High on January 29th. After completing the senior year, she will then return to her home to pursue studies in the field of Electrical Engineering at the University of Bogota.

Carolina will be residing with Gene, Sue, Jeff, Beckie, and Andy Mutti at 50 Channell Drive here in Agawam during her stay in the United States.

WELCOME BACK, CAROLINA!!! Everyone wishes you the best in health, your studies, and new friendships!

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## Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, January 22nd:** Cheese pizza, tossed garden salad with spinach greens & dressing, chilled peaches, milk.

**Tuesday, January 23rd:** Hamburg in roll, steamed rice, seasoned carrots, mustard, relish, catsup, chocolate brownie or salad pears, milk.

**Wednesday, January 24th:** Taco boat with cheese topping, niblet corn, apple crisp, milk.

**Thursday, January 25th:** Oven-baked chicken nuggets, seasoned mixed vegetables, dinner roll with butter, white cake with chocolate icing or pineapple tidbits, milk.

**Friday, January 26th:** Hamburg with gravy on whipped potato, seasoned green beans, wheat bread & butter, fruit cup or jello with topping, milk.

## STCC At AHS To Begin Classes On January 23rd

Registration is now going on at the Springfield Technical Community College campus, and registration will start January 18th at Agawam High School for the spring semester STCC evening courses to be held at the high school. Classes will begin on Tuesday, January 23rd.

A selection of STCC's most popular courses will again be offered in Agawam for the convenience of area residents. Credit courses are scheduled from 6:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. The semester ends May 7th.

Credit courses are offered on Tuesday evenings and include Microcomputer Applications for DOS, Labor Relations, Introduction to Philosophy, Introductory Nutrition, and Child Growth and Development.

Beginning January 16th, registration hours are Monday to Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to noon at the STCC campus. Payment may be made by check, VISA, Discover, or MasterCard. You may also register by phone or by fax.

Registration at Agawam High School will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 18th, and Tuesday, January 23rd. Textbooks will be available for purchase at the first meeting of each class, and must be paid for with cash or check.

For further information, call the STCC Division of Continuing Education at 781-1315.

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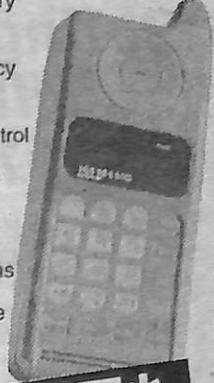
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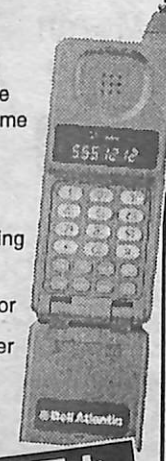
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LAUREN SEYMOUR

## Lauren Seymour Earns Dean's List Standing At Assumption College

Dr. Paul R. Douillard, Dean of the Undergraduate College at Assumption College in Worcester, MA, has announced the Dean's List for the fall 1995 semester.

Among those named to Dean's List was Lauren Seymour, daughter of Paul and Nancy Seymour of 81 North Street, Agawam. Lauren is a biology major and is a member of the class of 1999.

## Jr. High & AHS Students To Be Surveyed About Drugs, Alcohol Use

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

In an effort to target educational programs to meet students' needs, a survey asking students in grades seven through 12 about their involvement with alcohol, illegal drugs, and tobacco will be conducted later this month.

John Dougherty, the High School's substance abuse prevention coordinator, said he will be working with teachers at the Junior High to gauge students' use and abuse of drugs at the Junior High and High School. The information will be used to help develop strategies to combat teen substance abuse and to compare statistics with state and national numbers.

"I hear incidents of a lot more (drug) use at the Junior High level," Dougherty said. "The students are not coming to the High School to learn to use and abuse drugs. They're learning before they get there."

Dougherty said the self-reported survey will give educators a starting point to implement programs beyond the D.A.R.E. Program offered at the Middle School and elementary levels and beyond the educational efforts at the Junior High.

Addressing the concerns of School Committee member Teresa Kozloski that the students might not take the survey seriously, Dougherty said he did not think that would be a problem.

"We'll put in a disclaimer asking the students to be honest and to take the survey seriously," Dougherty said. "We have some questions built into the survey to show if a student is taking it

seriously."

The survey will be anonymous and will likely be administered during homeroom periods at the town's two secondary schools. Results of the survey will be tallied by Dougherty and Junior High teachers Gerald O'Malley and James Ryan, the advisors of that school's Non-User Club.

Dougherty said the results would be helpful in applying for grants to fund programs to combat the use of drugs and tobacco.

Dougherty said the results of the survey will be shared with educators and with the community. Approximately 1,800 students will be asked to respond to the survey.

### Consisting Of 42 Questions...

The survey consists of 42 questions. All students will be asked to answer 20 questions on their own and their family members' drug use, their friends' drug use, and whether or not the programs they have encountered in school have helped them avoid using drugs, alcohol, or tobacco.

Students who have used alcohol or drugs without their parents' permission will be asked to respond to questions designed to elicit information on when, where, with whom, and how often they drink alcohol or use drugs.

The latter half of the survey asks students detailed questions concerning their use of drugs and alcohol, including whether they have ever used alcohol before or during school.

## Report Card & Warning Notice Schedule Being Adjusted At Junior High

Since five inclement weather days occurred during the second marking term, an adjustment has been made to the report card and warning notice schedule at the Agawam Junior High School.

School Principal Kevin Littlefield explains that the following schedule will be observed for the remainder of the school year.

• Term II - Report cards will be issued on Friday, February 9th.

• The transition to second semester will occur on Monday, February 5th.

• Term III - Warning notices will be issued on Friday, March 15th. Report cards will be issued on Friday, April 26th.

• Term IV - Warning notices will be issued on Friday, May 24th.

Mr. Littlefield states that parents have been informed of these adjustments through memos which students should have brought home.

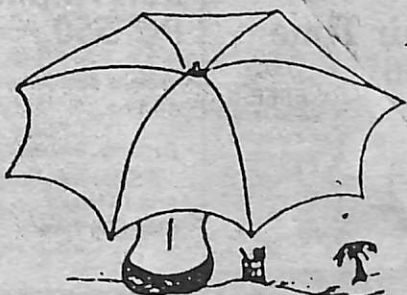
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TO BE CONTINUED...

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# Sports

At City Of Champs Tournament...

## Serious Back Injury Hits AHS Wrestler Andrew Ingham

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor



AGAWAM HIGH ALL-STATE WRESTLER Andrew Ingham suffered a serious back injury at a Brockton tournament last Saturday. Ingham is pictured with his coach, Phil Tomkiel on Media Day for Winter Sports last month.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

The harsh reality of serious injury in schoolboy athletics came much too close to home last Saturday at the City of Champions Invitational Wrestling Tournament in Brockton when All-Stater wrestler Andrew Ingham suffered a season-ending back injury during this prestigious event.

Ingham, a senior wrestling in the 171-pound class, was facing an opponent from Foxboro in the first round when the injury happened. Brownie tri-captain Chris Chechile saw it happen. "Andrew had the kid up on his back and was setting him up for a hip throw. He seemed to lose his balance and fell on his chest and face with his legs almost over his head. The kid (from Foxboro) landed right on his back," said Chechile.

The result of this freak mishap was that Ingham suffered a compression fracture of the 12 thoracic and first lumbar vertebrae.

### Taken To Brockton Hospital

Ingham was taken to Brockton Hospital where he was thoroughly checked. The CAT scan revealed the fracture.

Ingham's father was at the tournament and went to the hospital with his son. He returned to the meet site with a report that his son was undergoing tests and then went back to the hospital. It was on his second return from the hospital that Ingham's father had the awful news of the CAT scan. "It was all pretty devastating to all of us," said Brownie Coach Phil Tomkiel.

"What was happening at the meet didn't seem to matter any more because we were all so concerned about Andrew," he added.

Tomkiel had been three mats away watching another match when he got the call that one of his wrestlers was down.

"I immediately headed to where Andrew was," Tomkiel said. "At first we weren't sure just what had happened to him. He didn't have any loss of feeling, tingling, or numbness. For a moment we thought it was just a sprained back. But a back injury is always something to be handled very carefully."

Tomkiel praised the trainers in attendance, the Foxboro wrestling coach (who is an emergency

medical technician), and Brownie Assistant Coach Gary Geiger for their quick response to Ingham's injury.

During his time on the mat, Ingham was alert and talking. "He said he was in pain and that he heard a little noise in his back when his opponent fell on him," said Tomkiel. "We followed the procedure for when a back injury occurs. He wasn't allowed to move."

### Must Stay In Bed For A Month

Ingham will have to stay in bed for a month and of course, he's in plenty of pain. On Tuesday he was fitted with a brace that runs from his chest to his hips. He can only walk, with difficulty, to the bathroom or out to the family van, which has a bed in it for his trips to the hospital. His next appointment is slated for February 14th when the doctors will evaluate his condition.

Agawam High athletic trainer David Stratton made this point: "Andrew was allowed to be driven home by his father in the van. If they had any doubts about his condition being any worse, they would have had an ambulance transport him from there to a hospital in Springfield. That's a positive thing. And Andrew has youth on his side. Kids tend to heal a lot quicker than someone in their 50's or 60's."

A tutor will be coming in to make sure he doesn't fall behind in his school work.

When called at his home, Ingham vividly remembered the circumstances that led to the injury. "We were 50 seconds into the match. I'd tried to duck under him (the Foxboro kid) a few times but couldn't do it. So I changed my strategy. I got him in an over and under hook. But he managed to slide behind me."

"I had him on my hip then we both went down. Then I felt the pain and screamed. I knew I was hurt pretty bad," Ingham said.

With their All-State wrestler down, the skaken Brownies managed to finish fourth. "Under different circumstances I feel we would have finished second (in the tournament)," said Tomkiel. "But everyone was concerned for Andrew and that was all that mattered."

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## Central Is Victim Of AHS Girls' Hoop's 5th Straight Cruise

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

High powered sports car or steam roller. Take your pick when discussing the Agawam High girls' basketball team. Sometimes they beat you with speed. Sometimes they just outright flatten you. On Monday night, they went the flatten route, whipping up on visiting Central, 66-25.

It was the Brownies' fifth straight win, running their record to 5-2. Central fell to 2-6. The Brownies are ranked fourth in Division I at presstime.

It was obvious to the Brownie faithful that this one was over about two minutes after it got underway. Some of them were surprised that Agawam started without star sophomore Kristen Patterson. "She's a little banged up, so we decided to sit her out for a while," Coach Lou Conte noted.

Central opened with a 2-1-2 zone because it knew it couldn't run with Agawam. The Brownies patiently probed with crisp, cross-court passes. They were trying to set up some low-post scoring. Frosh Pia Bertone-Gross (9 points, 1-2, 5 rebounds) occupied that position. Her seven first-half points and intimidating presence on defense went a long way to defeathering the Golden Eagles.

The Brownies also started out in a zone. The difference between the two defensive sets was the offense resulting from it. After a Central miss and a rebound, the Brownies worked the outlet pass to perfection, hitting whoever was open breaking down the court.

Patterson (17 points, including a three, 0-1, 3 rebounds) came into the game with 12:12 left in the half. A minute later, she drove for two off a steal to make it 14-7, Brownies.

### Visitors Plagued By Turnovers

That turnover, by the way, was only one of 15 Central had in the first half. They had seven at the 9:35 mark. Agawam converted on eight of them. Central was quickly discovering that if you treat the ball like it's radioactive, you are going to get burned.

Senior Courtney Hyland (5 points, including a three, 2-2, 1 rebound) canned a three at 9:05. A minute later, Patterson drained one as well. Suddenly, Central, which wasn't coming far enough out of their zone to take on the Brownie shooters, found itself down, 22-9.

A (freshman) Barbara Maloni (8 points, 1 rebound) steal and hoop at 7:30 made it 24-9, Agawam.

Central switched to man-to-man after that. Patterson saw it immediately and took her defender to school on a nice drive down the lane for two and a foul, which she missed.

Maloni chipped in with two more 30 seconds after Patterson's hoop. It was 32-11 with 1:30 to go.

SEE AHS GIRLS - Page 35...

## Brownie Girls Continue To Slice Thru Opponents; Crush Bombers

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' basketball team is like a sports car with a big engine that starts off a little rough, but with some expert tuning up, begins to run at full speed.

Brownie Coach Lou Conte, one of the best basketball mechanics around, made an adjustment here, and a twist and a turn there. Now he has his machine roaring down the hoop highway to the tune of four wins in a row after two tough opening season losses.

The latest team to be run over by the defending Valley Wheel (4-2 overall) champs was Westfield, on a snowy Friday afternoon, January 12th at Kibbe Gym. The Bombers came in at 0-6 with their fingers crossed. They left on the wrong end of a 68-39 score and a bagel still in the left-hand column (0-7).

### Man-To-Man On Defense

Agawam didn't start out in the stifling full court press that had dismantled Holyoke three days earlier. Instead, they were intent to play Westfield man-to-man on 'D' in the opening minutes of the game. Bomber guard Ann Osowski (11 points, including 3 three's, 0-2, five rebounds) started off the scoring with a three. That 3-0 score would be the first and last time the Bombers would enjoy a lead in the game.

The Brownies, perhaps not intending to, went to work on the Westfield 2-1-2 zone by posting 5'9" freshman center Pia Bertone-Gross (20 points, 4-6, 5 rebounds) down low. She scored three of the first four Brownie baskets on nice, soft turnaround jumpers. She would say later, "They just seemed to ignore me down there, so my teammates, seeing that, fed me the ball."

Kristen Patterson (15 points, including 3 three's, 2-5, 2 rebounds) hit the first three point shot at the 11 minute mark. That came right after freshman Barbara Maloni (16 points, 2-3, 2 rebounds) went coast-to-coast on a steal for a basket. Westfield had been down by three, 10-7. Suddenly, they were out by five.

Then, as though sensing the Bombers were about to suffer vaporlock, the Brownies started to press with 10:50 to go. Westfield switched to a man defense. Patterson cracked that quick enough with a steal and full court sprint for a hoop (and a foul shot at 9:05). It was a three point play. At 7:41, the Brownies enjoyed an 18-12 lead.

### Major Frustration For Visitors

Westfield felt some major frustration at the 7:11 mark when it had three tries at its hoop on some tough offensive rebounding and couldn't hit a thing. Adding insult to injury, Bertone-Gross, still down low, put one up at the other end, got fouled, and made it.

More insult came the Bombers' way. Brownie senior forward Jamie Thomas (6 points, 0-1, 4 rebounds) stole the ball off the press and drove the

lane for two. Agawam now led 23-12, with 6:46 left.

Maloni, showing savvy more akin to a senior than the freshman she is, drove the lane twice to make it 29-15 Agawam with 4:12 left.

Agawam was playing a tight, clean game. Witness the fact that Westfield got its first trip to the line with 3:21 in the half.

Bertone-Gross was dominating underneath at the 2:12 mark. Westfield tried fronting her and a double team. Nothing worked. And the effort they made keeping an eye on her took away from their perimeter defense. The Brownies went up 33-20. They ended up with a 35-24 lead at the half.

Agawam went 16-24 (66 percent) from the field in the first half. They were 2-6 from the line. They committed eight turnovers.

Westfield shot 37 percent on 10-27 field goals. They were 1-2 from the stripe. They had the same number of turnovers as Agawam. But the Brownies converted on five of them. Westfield was only able to turn one Agawam miscue into a score.

The Brownies started the second half in a semi-press on defense. It was enough to confuse the Bombers and start them spinning again on the turnover turntable. A Patterson three and two straight Bomber stolen passes (for scores by Maloni) put Agawam up 54-30 at the 9:30 mark.

Finally, at the 6:18 mark, Agawam backed off the press. But by now Westfield appeared ragged and in a semi-state of shock, like a fighter waiting for the haymaker that would induce him to the canvas. Unfortunately for them, that situation had happened long before that.

### Pretty Passes By The Locals

Agawam was executing some pretty passes down the stretch. Patterson spied senior guard Jen Vegnys (2 points, 0-2, 2 rebounds) cutting hard for the hoop. She threaded the needle through the lane with a nice bounce pass and Vegnys made the basket.

Maloni and Courtney Hyland (2 points, 3 rebounds) were playing classic in-your-face guard defense. They both knew they were too quick for the Bombers' guards to drive on them. They were right.

Once again, Conte was able to get all his players involved in the game. The experience will serve the team well come playoff time.

The Brownies shot 12-18 (66 percent) and 5-10 in the second half. They had eight turnovers.

Westfield had a miserable time of it, shooting 15 field goals. Only five found their mark. They weren't much better from the line, with a 5-13 performance. Their 12 turnovers didn't help their cause, either.

Agawam out-rebounded the Bombers. The game total was 24-19.

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# AHS Hoop Loses Run & Gun Vs. Undefeated Commerce, 74-60

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

In basketball, there are two types of offense that are particularly exciting to watch - up tempo and up-up tempo.

The Springfield Commerce High School boys' basketball team plays the latter. They displayed it to the hilt last Saturday night as they invaded Kibbe Gymnasium and beat the Brownie boys, 74-60, in an independent game.

Agawam High also likes to run. Unfortunately, against Commerce, the locals were able to manage only a single "up" in their up tempo game. And that made all the difference.

With barely 30 seconds gone, and the thing already developing into a foot race, Agawam's Chris Bitzas (15 points, including a three, 3-6, 4 rebounds) who can be a deadly shooter, drained a three. Commerce was in an aggressive man defense. Agawam was also going the man route. Also, the Brownies were using an occasional press. And they were hitting the boards hard.

## A Frustrating Time

Perhaps that board-banging was best displayed at the 13 minute mark. Agawam, storming the glass, had four straight offensive rebounds. Unfortunately, none of the shots they put up as a result of their efforts went in. It had to be frustrating.

Phil McGeoghan (16 points, including a three, 3-6, 5 rebounds) hit a soft jumper from the right wing at the 11:20 mark, to put the Brownies up 9-4. Both teams, however, were playing tight, heads-up defense (as the score indicated).

However, the Red Raiders' junior guard Chris Jenkins (24 points, including a three, 5-6, 4 rebounds) was beginning to make his presence felt. At 9:54, he canned one to make it 9-8, Agawam. A minute later, with Agawam in zone, he shot over it for a three to tie the score at 11-all.

The Red Raiders base their defense on the same speed they show on offense. They were picking up the Brownie guards early and harassing them from the time line on in. That strategy worked because Agawam was beginning to cough up the ball more than Coach Mike Martin would have liked.

Commerce scored six quick points from the 6:00 to 5:30 mark - two on a break by Jenkins and four by Anthony McLaurin (10 points, 0-2, 2 rebounds) off two Agawam turnovers.

The Brownies suddenly found themselves down, 21-15. It was a dangerous situation to be in, especially when you're having problems controlling the ball. Case in point: with 4:11 left, the Brownies had committed 10 turnovers. Most of them were the result of the furious pace set by the Red Raiders.

With three minutes left, Commerce was up 27-18. The Brownies dropped back into a 2-3 zone. Two Brownie scores, including a crowd-pleasing McGeoghan dunk off a fast break with just over a minute to go, made it 29-23, Commerce.

Then Bitzas brought it down to a 29-25 Red Raiders' lead when he nailed one with a minute left.

Agawam had a golden opportunity to cut the lead even more with a half minute remaining. Senior guard Joe Albano (14 points, 4-4, 6 rebounds) stole a pass, drove the lane, but missed the lay-up. McGeoghan, following the play, missed his shot on the rebound. He was fouled and hit one of two.

The half ended, 29-26, Commerce.

Agawam shot 8-25 (32 percent) from the field. Their 8-10 (80 percent) from the line kept them in it. But their 13 turnovers, seven which went for Red Raiders' scores, hurt their cause.

Commerce went 13-25 (52 percent) from the floor and 2-8 (25 percent) from the line. They had only four turnovers, which is an excellent number for a run and gun team.

## Fast Paced From The Get-Go

Agawam was in this one at the start of the second half. Commerce came out in a short press and a 2-1-2 zone. McGeoghan, shooting from downtown, hit a three early on. And the race was on again. Things were so fast paced that neither defense could set up properly.

At the 12:40 mark, Albano canned a field goal and suddenly, the Brownies, forever battling, were only down by two, 39-37.

From 11:25 to 11:05, they traded hoops in a basketball version of the 100-yard dash. However, when the dust cleared, Commerce was still up, 43-41.

Then, in what might have been the biggest basket of the game, the Raiders' Tyrone Scott, who would only get five points, drained a three at the 10:30 mark. It was now 46-41, Commerce.

The Brownies retreated into a 2-1-2 zone. Commerce utilized the press and it paid off in the form of two Agawam turnovers, which led to four Red Raider points. And suddenly it was 54-44 with 8:14 left.

Commerce was now making second efforts on the boards. Jenkins made it 58-46. A three pointer by Terrance Starks (9 points, including a three, 1 rebound) put the Brownies down 65-53 with 3:40 remaining.

A Jenkins drive to the hoop for two and a free throw made it 68-55, Raiders, with 2:30 to go.

A minute later, Agawam went into a full court press. It came too late.

Commerce raised its record to 9-0. Agawam fell to 4-4.

## Turnovers Hurt The Locals

Agawam shot better in the second half (14-26, 53 percent). They went 2-3 from the line. Again, the turnovers killed them. They committed 13 more, which continually disrupted their offense. Commerce, on the other hand, managed eight.

Commerce went 14-29 from the field (48 percent) and 9-16 (56 percent) from the stripe.

After it was over, Bitzas addressed the running games both teams employed. "We're a running team, too," he said, but admitting that perhaps they should have tried to slow things down a bit. Bitzas also had the difficult job of guarding Jenkins. And, as perhaps the top defender of the Agawam team, he did the best he could. "He's one of the best players in Western Mass.," he said. "He's certainly the best player on their team."

The Brownies never backed down in the game. They outrebounced Commerce, 30-25, and were in it most of the way. But, in the end, they just couldn't out-run the Raiders. And 25 turnovers didn't help, either.

## AHS GIRLS' - from Page 34...

Then the Brownies switched into their own man-on-man 'D' and went up-tempo. Central had no answer to anything having to do with basketball from that point on. The half ended with Agawam in complete control, 41-15.

Agawam went 17-29 (58 percent) and 6-10 (60 percent) from the line. They came up with only seven turnovers as opposed to Central's 15. They out-rebounded the Eagles 14-11.

It only got worse for the visitors in the second half. The Brownies, realizing Central couldn't hit the floor, retreated into a 2-1-2 zone, daring the Eagles to gun over it. Central went with a man-to-man. That wasn't a wise move. Agawam is too good not to take advantage of that defense, especially when its opponent has a hard time executing.

Senior Jamie Thomas (4 points/2 rebounds) was in the post replacing Bertone-Gross. While the Central defenders were concentrating on her, Paterson went back door at 13:43 to make it 45-15. It was obvious Central was having trouble guarding the cutters.

## Surgical Precision

At the 9:39 mark, Maloni and Steph Biza (2 points/3 rebounds) were running the offense with surgical precision. Bertone-Gross, junior Lisa Reveruzzi (2 points/4 rebounds), Melissa Cote (6 points/1 rebound), and Sara Cote (6 points, 0-3, 4 rebounds) had staked a claim to the real estate under the boards.

Part of Central's problem had to do with the fact that as the game wore on, they got slower and slower getting back on defense. The other part was that the Brownies were bringing the ball up the floor at a snail's pace in an attempt to use up as much time as possible. (They got called twice in the second half for letting the 30-second shot clock run out.)

The numbers for the Brownies in the second half: 11-6 from the floor (42 percent) and 2-3 from the line (66 percent). They had only five turnovers and pulled down 16 rebounds.

The second 16 was downright ugly for the Golden Eagles. They shot 4-16 (25 percent) from the floor. They had no chances at the line. They managed only seven boards.


During their five game win streak, the Brownies have outscored their opposition, 315-155. It seems then that they've had their way over the recent weeks. After a Friday night road game against tough archrival West Springfield (the Terriers beat them 52-50 in the Brownies' second game of the season), they go into league competition and open at Amherst next Tuesday.

Conte was asked if the ease of their recent wins will affect their Valley Wheel performance. "We were tested in our first two games (both losses). And granted, we haven't had that tough a time of it lately. But our goal is to get better with every game we play."

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## Brownie Wrestlers Clobber Central With Ease, 70-3

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

In the middle part of last week, two Agawam High athletic teams experienced, in the words of Charles Dickens, "The best of times and the worst of times."

The best came last Wednesday night when the defending state champion Brownie wrestling team traveled to Springfield to meet Central High. At the time, Central was 3-0. Agawam checked in at 2-0. When it was over, Central had one in the right hand column as they were mauled, 70-3. Agawam improved to 3-0 as it chases a 10th straight Western Mass. crown and second straight state title (third overall).

This was a feel good match for Agawam. No one really gave the outclassed Golden Eagles much of a chance anyway.

Kevin McKay started it out for the Brownies in the 103's. McKay, a tough, fast, and aggressive kid, met Sam Meak. McKay was just too quick for his opponent. He plucked the Golden Eagle's feathers to the tune of 11-0.

The 112's saw Brownie sophomore Justin Aldrich go against Pan Siphaniun. Siphaniun had a strange strategy in this one. Time and again he struggled to get out of bounds. It seemed he was trying not to lose rather than going for a win. He tried to get out again as the third period was winding down. Aldrich, in frustration, yanked him back into the circle and roughed him up some more. The Brownie went on to win, 10-4.

The only bright spot for Central came in the 119's. Roger Williams beat Agawam senior Mike Pessolano, 10-3.

### A Real Battle

The 125's saw Agawam's outstanding veteran Chris Chechile battle Central senior Malcolm Ivy. The Central kid was tough. After one, it was 3-2, Chechile. Chechile led 5-3 after two periods. Chechile chose the neutral position to start the third and made the most of it. He was up 7-5 when he executed a reverse, locked up Ivy, and pinned him with 52 seconds left in the match.

Sophomore Ryan Grealis represented Agawam in the 130's. He had no trouble with Central's Nick Montagna, pinning him with 36 seconds left in the first period.

Eric Johnson won the 135's on a forfeit.

Agawam junior Jason Jean got a pin of his own in the 140's. He nailed Central's Dave Cruz with 10 seconds left in his match.

One of the more exciting battles occurred in the 145's. Brownie junior Dan Dialessi met Central's Arron Ragland. Ragland, a senior, was an outstanding defensive back on the Golden Eagle football team. Dialessi was in a battle. Ragland led 8-7 after two. But Dialessi wasn't impressed. He pinned Ragland with 27 seconds left in the match.

Jeff Blews, another AHS football player, represented the locals in the 152's. He pinned Central's James Auston, also a football player, with one minute left in their match.

At that point, the team score read 43-3, Agawam.

Agawam's John Herman was up 7-0 over Central's Rafael Ramos when he pinned the Eagle with 1:23 left in the second period.

State champion Andrew Ingham won by forfeit in the 171's.

Agawam's other state champ, Jon Jacobsen, had little trouble with Central's Hector Santiago, pinning him at the 17 second mark in the first period. At this writing, Jon has pinned five of the six foes he's wrestled this year.

Agawam's 215-pounder, Darrell Malachowski, pinned his man with 1:04 left in the second period.

### Big Finish in the Heavyweight Division

Derek Parker provided the big finish in the heavyweight division. He went up against Torrell White, a former Central football lineman, who checked in at 275 pounds. Derek is about 225. "He was down to 215 pounds when he was sick a few weeks ago," his father, Kirk Parker, an assistant AHS football coach, noted.

Both wrestlers locked up early on. Each man was looking for the slight advantage that would lead to a takedown. They were well aware that, in this division, one mistake could lead to 200 pounds-plus of steak and eggs landing on top of you. At the end of one there was a lot of jousting, but no score.

White managed to get Parker down at the 1:50 mark of the second period. Parker, using all his strength, managed to escape. Then Parker got two on a take down. White managed an escape of his own. But Parker caught up with him, took him down, and began to ride the big guy (or at least, bigger guy). It was 4-1, Parker, after two.

The third period saw Parker once again riding White all over the mat. A few times, the Golden Eagle managed to struggle halfway to his feet, with the Brownie on his back like a cowboy on a Brahma bull. But Parker wouldn't be thrown. He won it, 4-1. "He was big and good. But he was getting tired out. My plan was to just outlast him," Parker noted after he'd won the match.

## Cathedral Panthers Trounce Brownies, 16-0, In Hockey Action

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

The worst of times happened a week ago to the Agawam High hockey team. They met one of the true powerhouses in Western Massachusetts—Springfield's Cathedral. The Panthers are the defending Berry Division champs. They play big-time opponents like B.C. High, Malden Catholica, and Archbishop Williams. They have an All-Western Mass. player in junior forward Chris Orzulak. Despite their tough schedule, they came in at 4-3-1. They came out at 5-3-1 after handing the Brownies one of their worst defeats in years, 16-0.

Agawam had the first shot on net when sophomore freshman Rich Feeley launched one from the point just after the opening faceoff. It would be the only chance at the enemy net they would have the entire first period. Cathedral demonstrated how things would go when it scored with 52 seconds gone in the game. They scored again at the 1:14 mark and never looked back.

### Power Play Didn't Help Locals

Agawam had a power play with 13 minutes to play in the first. They could do nothing. Thirty seconds after Cathedral was back at full strength, it scored again.

The Panthers were doing what the young Brownies will have to learn to do themselves—pass crisply, execute nice drop passes, and head-maning and centering the puck. Cathedral was also getting more than one player involved in its goal scoring efforts.

On defense, the Brownies looked confused and disorganized. The Panther defenders, on the other hand, knocked down the Agawam shots before they ever reached netminder John Peczk.

Agawam Coach Fran Pycko changed goalies after the Panthers had scored six in the first, substituting junior Mike Hodges for Derek Benton.

The problem wasn't in the net, though. Mike let

in two quick ones. The period ended, 8-0 Cathedral. The Panthers had 18 shots on the Brownie net. Agawam could only manage the one by Feeley at the start of the game.

Cathedral only scored three in the second 16. A measure of the Agawam confusion was evident when they started off the period with only four skaters on the ice and took the faceoff a man short. There was not a lot of hitting by either side during the entire game. But the Brownies' sophomore defenseman Austin Kimball was making some nice rushes up the ice whenever he managed to get his stick on the puck. The Cathedral back checking, however, kept his teammates from giving him much help.

And even though Agawam was more aggressive in the second, it forever seemed as though Cathedral was on an endless power play.

Pycko had Benton back in. At the end of the period, he made three great saves in a row off the sticks of point blank Panther shooters.

At the end of the second, it was 11-0, Cathedral. They took 14 shots. Agawam had none on net.

### No Support For The Goalie

The third period was conducted in running time because of the score. Junior Panther defender Peter Ollari said it best while spending some time in the box for high sticking as the game wound down. "I feel sorry for Derek. (The Brownie goalie for most of the game.) He's not getting any support."

It must be said that despite the final score of 16-0, Agawam never gave up. They skated as hard and as best they could from the opening whistle to the final buzzer. They were simply outclassed. They had one shot on goal in the final frame. Cathedral took 10.

Their record at this writing stands at 2-5 and 0-5 in the Berry Division.

## AAA Piranhas Bow To Tough Swimmers From Longmeadow, 511-355 On Jan. 6th

The Agawam AA Piranhas swim team lost against the Longmeadow team by a score of 355-511 on January 6th at the Agawam Junior High School. The results included:

### Girls 8 & under:

The team of Tammy Gorman, Leeann Morytko, Julie Wills, and Julie Gorman placed first in the 100-yard freestyle relay.

Leeann Morytko, second in 25-yard freestyle; Tammy Gorman, first in 25-yard butterfly; Jessica Lalli, second, and Julie Gorman, third in 50-yard freestyle; Jessica Lalli, third in 25-yard backstroke.

### Boys 8 & under:

The team of Erik Deliefde, Matthew Weir, Jeffrey Lagasse, and James Lewin placed first in the 100-yard freestyle relay.

Jeffrey Lagasse, first in 100-yard individual medley; James Lewin, first in 25-yard freestyle; Jeffrey Lagasse, first in 25-yard butterfly; Erik Deliefde, first, and Matthew Weir, third in 50-yard freestyle; Erik Deliefde, first in 25-yard backstroke; Adam Deliefde, third in 25-yard breaststroke.

### Girls 9-10:

The team of Kristyn Ward, Angela Vinton, Leigh Stepanian, and Katie Gorman placed second in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

The team of Brittany Theriaque, Bethany Reid, Allison Morris, and Katie Gorman placed third in the 200-yard medley relay.

Bethany Reid, first, and Allison Morris, third in 100-yard individual medley; Angela Vinton, second in 50-yard freestyle; Brittany Theriaque, third in 50-yard butterfly; Katie Gorman, third in 100-yard freestyle; Brittany Theriaque, second in 50-yard backstroke; Bethany Reid, second, and Irena Klimczak, third in 50-yard breaststroke.

### Boys 9-10:

The team of Michael Lalli, Laurence Rocke, Paul Lagasse, and Daniel Adamski placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Paul Lagasse, first in 100-yard individual medley; Daniel Adamski, second, and Laurence Rocke, third in 50-yard freestyle; Paul Lagasse, first, and Joseph McGeoghan, third in 50-yard butterfly; Daniel Adamski, first, and Laurence Rocke, third in 100-yard freestyle; Michael Lalli, third in 50-yard backstroke; Anthony Rueli, third in 50-yard breaststroke.

### Girls 11-12:

The team of Heather Scarlett, Amanda Boissonnea, Christina Climo, and Rachel Morris placed second in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

The team of Rachel Morris, Heather Scarlett, Hilary Golas, and Kyleigh Egan placed second in the 200-yard medley relay.

Hilary Golas, first, and Rachel Morris, third in 200-yard individual medley; Hilary Golas, first, and Rebecca Morytko, third in 200-yard freestyle; Kyleigh Egan, third in 50-yard freestyle; Christina Climo, second, and Lisa Niedziela, third in 100-yard freestyle; Heather Scarlett, first in 50-yard breaststroke.

### Boys 11-12:

Nathan Adamski, second in 200-yard freestyle; Joshua Lewin, third in 50-yard freestyle; Nathan Adamski, second in 50-yard butterfly.

### Girls 13-14:

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, the team of Melissa Sparver, Allison Pisano, Katherine Chmura, and Shannon Costa placed first; and the team of Brenna McGinn, Erika Dowd, Katie Gallagher, and Hillary King placed second.

In the 200-yard medley relay, the team of Sarah Naciewicz, Katherine Chmura, Allison Pisano, and Shannon Costa placed first.

Shannon Costa, first, and Sarah Naciewicz, third in 200-yard individual medley; Sarah Naciewicz, first, and Erika Dowd, second in 200-yard freestyle; Allison Pisano, first, and Hillary King, second in 50-yard freestyle; Katie Gallagher, third in 100-yard freestyle; Brenna McGinn, first, Melissa Sparver, second, and Elizabeth Dowd, third in 100-yard backstroke; Katherine Chmura, second, and Lauren Kunkler, third in 100-yard breaststroke.

### Boys 13-14:

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, the team of Thomas Casiello, Matthew Francis, Thomas Graveline, and Joel Ward placed first.

Joel Ward, second, and Thomas Casiello, third in 200-yard freestyle; Joel Ward, second in 50-yard freestyle; Thomas Graveline, third in 100-yard freestyle; Thomas Graveline, second in 100-yard backstroke; Thomas Casiello, first in 100-yard breaststroke.

### Girls 15-18:

Rachel Niemiec, first, and Kelly Robinson, second in 50-yard freestyle; Rachel Niemiec, first, and Kelly Robinson, second in 100-yard freestyle.

**For all the hometown news, townsfolk turn our pages every week - AAN!!!**



## Sportsmen's Corner

—By Bill Chiba—  
1003 No. Westfield St.  
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### Salmon Reproducing In The Clyde River

Landlocked salmon are again successfully reproducing in the Clyde River in Newport, according to fish population sampling done this fall by Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department biologists.

"It's real good news," said fisheries biologist Len Gerardi. Gerardi said adult fish were able to spawn last year because a dam, owned by the Connecticut-based Citizens Utilities, washed out a year-and-a-half ago, improving fish habitat conditions in the river.

The dam went out in the spring of '94. As a result, water flows have improved in this section of the Clyde. The young salmon found this year are the progeny of adult salmon that spawned in the fall of '94.

The dam breached in April of 1994, allowing water to flow in the original riverbed at much higher and more natural levels than has been possible since the power company built the dam in 1957.

This same stretch of the Clyde River historically provided important fish spawning habitat, and it is now producing salmon again. The total number of young salmon found was not spectacular, but the adult fish have shown they will respond if given the chance. It is predicted that the spawning run could again become as spectacular as it once was if several environmental problems associated with hydropower are corrected.

Citizens Utilities is seeking to have its existing hydroelectric dams on the Clyde River relicensed for the next 30 years by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

Under Federal law, FERC is required to weigh not only the economic aspects of power generation, but also the river's importance to wildlife and recreation.

The same situation could happen in the Westfield River in a couple of years. Salmon spawn was discovered at the foot of the dam in the Westfield River this past year. The dam is about to be relicensed and the spawn discovery happened at the right time. The owners of the dam have been convinced that a fishway is needed and it is presently under construction and will be finished this spring.

The fishway will open up 14 miles of the river to the spawning salmon.

The annual holding of the Eastern Fishing & Outdoor Exposition will be February 1st-4th at The Centrum in Worcester. Some of the greatest fishing and hunting talent in the world is at the show.

The 1996 Celebrity Seminar Series features fishing and hunting outdoor pros. The seminars are free daily.

Mark Davis, one of the most exciting anglers on the tournament circuit today and the 1995 BASS Master's Classic champion, was also named BASS Angler of the Year. Davis is the first pro ever to win both titles in the same season. He gives seminars on Sunday, February 4th.

Saltwater expert and author of over 1,000 fishing articles, Jack Fallon conducts his popular Saltwater Roundtable on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Tim Coleman, editor of *The New England Fisherman* and 30-year fishing veteran, appears on Thursday, February 1st.

Peter Fiduccia, host of TNN's Woods 'N Water series and an award-winning outdoor writer, has something to say to every hunter. Peter shares his whitetail expertise on Saturday, February 3rd.

The EXPO has something for every sportsman. Retailers offer special show discounts on fresh and saltwater fishing tackle, hunting and shooting gear and accessories, and boats, motors, and canoes. Guides, lodges, and outfitters feature wilderness camps and excursions across the U.S. and Canada.

Show hours are Thursday and Friday, February 1st and 2nd, 1:00 p.m.; Saturday, February 3rd, 10:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Sunday, February 4th, 10:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Admission is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children under 12. Children under five are admitted free.

All seminars will be held in Sections 110, 111, and 112, off Concourse.

MAWAGA OFFICERS FOR 1996 are **Ralph Webster**, President; **Terry Letellier**, Vice-President; **Jim Gamelli**, Secretary; **Rich Wilson**, Treasurer; **Roger Anderson**, Financial Secretary; and **Charlie Baker**, **Jim Stefanik**, **Claude Talbot**, **Tom Vining**, **Paul Query**, **Greg Sargent**, and **Wayne Harrington**, Directors.

The MAWAGA Ice Fishing Derby and Steak Roast will be held Sunday, Feb. 11th from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at the club pond. Chairman Jim Stefanik said that for your \$15 entry fee, your "ice hole" will be drilled and assigned to you by numbers. If you don't have tip-ups, they will be provided at no charge, bait will be available, cash prizes will be awarded for various categories, and you will be allowed a two-trout limit. After the fishing, a prime steak cooked to perfection over a wood fire will be served with all the fixins'. For those wishing to attend the roast only, tickets will be available at \$10.

This event is open to all members and non-members and tickets are limited. Call Jim at 786-2030 (work) or 786-1790 (home). Buy your tickets early.

## Brownie Skiers Capture Huge First In Slalom Event

Winter is back, and so is the alpine ski program at Agawam High School.

With the solid second place in the first slalom, the boys' team found themselves fighting for the top position in their division. With the odds against them (due to the fact that they are a very young team), Agawam captured a first in the January 11th slalom.

"This was a great finish for the program. The hard work and many hours of practice is paying great dividends earlier than I expected," said Coach Olson.

**Ryan Progulske** completed another solid run with a time of 41.40, placing him once again in the top five of the "B" division. **Kevin Perreault** made his debut on the varsity program with an eighth-place time in the division. Kevin pulled in the time of 43.48 skiing out of the eighth seed for the Brownies.

**Andy Markowski** proved to be strong in slalom, also, with his 10th place finish in the competition. Andy crossed the line with a time of 44.30. **Mike Savioli** completed the top four times for Agawam with a time of 45.16.

According to Coach Olson, "The Brownies are young but have the desire to compete with the best!"

**Steve Charest** found himself pushing the limits with his time of 46.80. His skills are developing, and he is going to be a force in the near future.

**Dan Viens** and **Mike Defilipi** completed the varsity order with times of 51.53 and 65.87, respectively. Once again, the tricky slalom set did claim one victim from the Brownie squad: **Ben Weld** popped out of his bindings after having a great run off the top of the course.

The junior varsity is also proving the strength of the Alpine program in Agawam. On January 11th, the giant slalom race found the Brownies on a mission to improve their already fast times.

**B.J. Cortis** led the pack with a giant slalom time of 29.32, followed by freshman **Rob Santanello's** time of 31.14. **Ricky Haglund** and **Sean Woodard** exploded down the hill to complete the run with a time of 31.55 and 31.90, respectively.

The program has broken through many barriers this season with its renewed dedication and persistence in its ski training, according to Coach Olson. Catapulting the team forward has been the effort of all the alpine skiers on the team.

The Brownies are on the road once again this week for two races at Berkshire East. At presstime, the boys have retained first place in their division.

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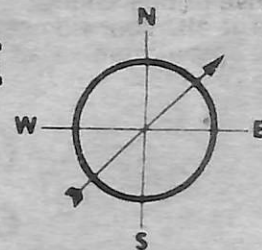
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